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■ CONTRIBUTE TO HEALTH
Pitch in and help celebrate the 15th Annual Healthy Cities Fair.
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■ PETER TURNLEY
Famous Fort Wayne native shares his photos from around the world.
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THE COMMUNICATOR

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Cummings to speak at IPFW

By Courtney Eyer
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University of Notre Dame Professor E. Mark Cummings will be speaking at the IPFW Arts and Sciences Distinguished Lecture on Nov. 3. The lecture will be held in Neff Hall, Room 101 and is free to the public. Cummings, the Notre Dame Endowed Chair of Psychology, will be discussing "Children and Marital Conflict" in his presentation.

The professor has written two books dealing with the topic of familial influence in child development. Cummings has also published over 150 scientific articles on the subject.

Cummings anticipates the talk will be beneficial to a wide audience.

"Anyone who has ever been or plans to be involved in a close romantic or marital relationship would take away some valuable information about how they may affect their children," he said. "Those students or individuals reflecting on their parents' conflictual relationship may gain some insight into their own behavior and be able to relate our findings to their own experiences."

Three main objectives are anticipated for the presentation. Cummings will first talk about prior research studying the effects of marital conflict on children.

The focus will then shift to new innovations in the field, stressing the role of additional factors in marital unrest. These include the role of parental depression, the father's part in the conflict, alcohol use and its effects on a marriage, and marital struggle in cross-cultural environments.

The final issue Cummings will discuss relates to the use of research conclusions in establishing programs for prevention and parental education about the effects of marital conflict on children. While the talk will center on marital issues, Cummings sees conflict as a part of daily life. Understanding the nature and consequences of conflict can aid in its decrease.

"Conflict is something that is experienced to greater and lesser d and therefore we feel that this information would be beneficial to anyone attending," Cummings said. "Some of the principles and ideas can extend beyond the marital relationship addressing general communication difficulties and breakdowns." Cummings continues to be involved in research on the issue of marital unrest and child development at a national lev nel. He aids in setting research priorities for the National Institutes of Health, the National Science Foundation and the Administration for Children and Families. Cummings was a vital part of the establishment of Notre Dame's Center for Children and Families, an

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Light to visit IPFW in January

By Courtney Eyer
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Harvard Professor Richard Light will be visiting the IPFW campus in January to discuss his book Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Mind. In preparation for Light's visit, two book discussions will be held on campus.

The first is Nov. 3 from noon to 1:15 p.m. in Walb Union, Room 224 while the second discussion will be held Nov. 9 from noon to 1:15 p.m. in the Classroom Medical Building, Room 138. The Center for Academic Support and Advancement (CASA) director Rachelle Darabi anticipates the discussions will introduce students to the subjects dealt with in the book. "We hope the conversations will lead to questions that will help frame Dr. Light's visit in January," she said. The conclusions of the professor's research are varied and far-reaching.

Light contends that many institutions of higher education assume students, in particular talented students, want to be left alone upon acceptance to the school. This is exactly the opposite of what students desire, claims Light. The research in Making the Most of College shows students learn more when studying in small groups outside of the classroom setting and, moreover, that good advising is crucial for scholarly success.

Additional activities and jobs add to a student's overall satisfaction and also aid in their learning. IPFW assistant professor of theatre history and a director of the Nov. 3 discussion session Shari Troy states that Light's book asks two vital questions: What choices can students make to get the most from college, and what are effective ways for faculty members and campus leaders to translate good intentions into practice?

The book has been influential nationwide and even helped establish some programs at IPFW. According to Troy, "The First Year Experience and Learning Communities program at IPFW is partly a result of the conclusions from Richard Light's research and findings." Registration for the book discussions is accessible via the CASA website.

The first 50 registrants will receive a free copy of Light's book, Making the Most of College: Students Speak Their Mind.

Turnley to lecture this week

By Courtney Eyer
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A Fort Wayne native and world-renowned photojournalist, Peter Turnley, has been documenting existence since 1972. He has worked in more than 85 nations, covering the after effects of 9/11, armed conflicts in Afghanistan, Chechnya, the Balkans and Kosovo, conflicts on the African continent in South Africa, Somalia and Rwanda, and turmoil throughout the Middle East, including Iraq. Recently named a Distinguished Citizen Fellow at Indiana University's Institute for Advanced Study, Turnley will present a pair of free, public lectures on the IPFW campus this week. The Nov. 3 lecture is entitled "The Story of Man: Images of Modern World History, 1972-2005" and will be at 7:30 p.m. "Telling Stories with Images: A Life of Passion and Engagement," is to be held Nov. 4 at noon. The Walb Student Union Ballroom will host both presentations.

The IPFW journalism program, anthropology department, international studies program and school of arts and sciences have generously sponsored these lectures. Turnley, along with his twin brother David who also makes his living as a photojournalist, grew up in Fort Wayne and graduated from Elmhurst High School.

The brotherly duo is among the recipients of the 2005 Governor's Arts Award. He began his career in photography at age 16, falling in love with the opportunity the art provided for self-expression. "Photography expanded my world. It has always been for me, a medium through which I can share my observations and responses to the world," Turnley says in an online journal at his website, www.peterturnley.com. In his online journal, Turnley's passion for his career seems unparalleled. "When I review my life as a photographer, I feel blessed and fortunate to have experienced so many wonderful emotions, the most significant being the sense of being alive, being powerfully alive."

Turnley's career took him from Fort Wayne, where in the seventies he and his brother documented the lives of the inhabitants of McClellan Street, to the University of Michigan and then on to Paris. He eventually was offered assignments for global publications like Time and Newsweek.

In 1984, Turnley had his first international assignment in India. "This first foreign assignment would change my life. I developed an insatiable desire to travel and to document people whose plight deserved the world's attention."

Harper's Magazine has utilized Turnley's skills since

Photo courtesy by Peter Turnley / news@ipfwcommunicator.org

PHOTOGRAPHY: A photo from the series titled 'The Family of Man' of a Mozambican refugee in Malawi, 1988.

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Pagan student alliance stands out

By Sam Win
swin@ipfwcommunicator.org

When students see the pentagram symbol of pagans they can resort quickly to stereotyping. Complete understanding of the symbol and pagans on the IPFW campus is important.

Steven Morgan is president of the Spiritual and Pagan Student Alliance (SPSA) and he spends all his extra time in the SPSA office.

In SPSA, Danielle Stewart is vice president, Rachel Guilliano is treasurer, and LaDawn Schneider is secretary. Morgan explained about the star symbol of SPSA: "To everyone, the pentagram (or star symbol) means something different. To me it has always shown me a person standing in the middle of a protected circle, a circle of knowledge.

The top point, or the head, symbolizes the human spirit; the other four points are symbols of the four elements (Earth, Air, Fire and Water) and act as the limbs of the person.

Actually, the pentagram symbol of pagans reminds us the four elements (Earth, Air, Fire and Water) and Spirit are essential because we walk on the Earth, we breath the Air, we drink Water, we warm with Fire, and move all things with the Spirit."

In the mission statement, The Pagan Alliance explicitly explains who pagans are: "In truth, Pagans are the same as everyone else. We are everywhere. We sit next to you at the movies, in restaurants, and in classes. We provide services that you use every day. We come from all walks of life and are not always obvious to point out. We serve your dinner when you decide you don't want to cook. We protect you as police officers, firemen and paramedics. We are the doctors that help nurse you back to health. We are the soldiers on the front lines defending your freedoms.

We are the teachers educating the youth of tomorrow. We are the parents of your children's friends and are members of the PTA. We are members of the local Chambers of Commerce. We are the people you see on the television and hear on the radio. We grow your food, we make your clothes, and we even sign your paychecks."

"Pagans are an eclectic group of non-Christians. We follow many paths, some spiritual, and some religious," Morgan said.

Morgan also told about the history of the organization: "The PSA (Pagan Student Alliance) was founded in 2000 by a man named Shawn Hodel.

Since then we have changed not only the layout of our group but also changed the name to SPSA (The Spiritual & Pagan Student Alliance), to encompass all the religious paths we, as pagans, include."

According to Morgan, the SPSA-sponsored events on campus last semester were successful.

"Last semester we participated in the first ever Spring Fling Week, we also did a walk for Alzheimer's and a walk for Muscular Dystrophy, as well as a charity fund raiser for the Children's Miracle Network, in connection with the Speedway Super America CMN drive." Pagans hold prayer services when there is a tragedy within the community or the nation.

On September 11, 2001 the SPSA, in conjunction with Inner-Varsity Christian Fellowship, held a candlelight vigil for all the victims in New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.

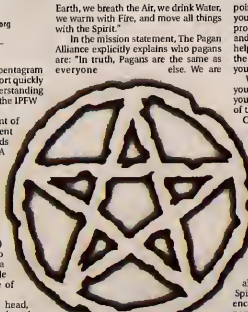
They also held a vigil of remembrance on the one year anniversary of the tragedy. The group has joined in several community ventures such as Pagan Pride Day, a food drive for Community Harvest Food Bank, Easter Seals, Alzheimer's Memory Walk, American Red Cross Hurricane Relief Funds and other various charities.

Pagans believe it is only right to moderately take and reasonably give.

Morgan looks forward to the SPSA events on campus planned for the coming semesters.

"SPSA this year is planning a showing of the Rocky Horror Picture Show as well as, in connection with Campus Scouts, a Halloween Costume Party. We will also be hosting a charity fundraiser in April, for Spring Fling Week called Hotter Than Hot.

It's a campus wide fund raiser for the Elizabeth Glaser Pediatric AIDS Foundation." If anyone wants to know more or join the SPSA, send an email to fwspsa@yahoo.com or spsa@ipfw.edu.



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Campus collection for health

By Sam Win
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There were several containers in the buildings on the IPFW campus for collections and contributions to "The 15th Annual Healthy Cities Health Fair and Veterans' Stand Down." The health fair will be held on November 4 at the Wayne Township Trustee Office in Fort Wayne. Uninsured and underinsured people may come to 320 E. Superior St. and receive free health services.

Among the numerous health services that will be offered that day, the participants may have lab studies completed for cholesterol and blood sugar checks, receive free flu shots and receive blood pressure screening, osteoporosis screening, or various cancer tests including mammograms.

Kenneth L. Modesitt, associate dean for External Partnerships and Research for School of Engineering, encouraged and reminded his students about the collection dates on campus. "These collection dates are October 18, 19, 20, and 21."

Dr. Modesitt is a professor in the computer science department and gave contact information to students who want to volunteer at the event. Jo Bauman and Ian K. Modesitt are advisors in the nursing department and in charge of collection. Bauman said, "We extended collection days." Bauman is a MSN nursing advisor specializing in direct admission. Students were excited about the campus-wide collection because the IPFW community saw the containers in all the buildings on campus. Camille Grant, a senior majoring in criminal justice, said, "I am going to donate to the Health Fair." "This year the Healthy Cities Health Fair hopes to reach out to 600 people in our community.

The Nursing Department at IPFW contributes to many of the services offered on November 4 by having staff and faculty assist with the initial intakes, administer some of the services, and many of the nursing students also work side-by-side helping with the different procedures offered," Modesitt said.

Modesitt also went to student organization meetings and motivated students to be involved in the Health Fair. "During the month of October, the Nursing Department places many posters around campus encouraging contributions of major items such as warm coats and clothing, as well as smaller items which include hygiene articles such as bars of soap, shampoo, shave cream and deodorant. This is a gigantic effort to collect items that will help many people with large needs in our community."

Sherri Emerson, a senior human services major and president of the Black Collegian Caucus (BCC) said, "I am going to donate for the 15th annual Healthy Cities Health Fair."

She asked her members from BCC to donate as well in a BCC general meeting that was in the second floor lobby of Walb Student Union at noon on Oct. 17. "Collection dates are after our meeting so that BCC officers and members can donate their items."

BCC will donate to not only the health fair but also to new residents of Fort Wayne. "Black Collegian Caucus (BCC) is planning to donate slightly used coats and baby items. We will collaborate with organizations in the community. BCC will be assisting new residents who were evacuated to Fort Wayne from the Gulf coast," Emerson said.

Salim Bhuiyan, a senior information systems major said, "In Islam religion, there are two kinds of donations which are Zakath and Sadqah. I will contribute for The 15th Annual Healthy Cities Health Fair and 5th Annual Veterans' Stand Down." Hap D. Fiandt, a junior majoring in computer science said, "This is a very nice program for helping people in need." Fiandt works as a tutor at SPOT, which is part of the Center for Academic Support and Advancement and also worked for Supplementary Instruction (SI) of CASA.

Ngoc Do, a sophomore nursing student said, "I have planned to donate soap and shampoo. Donations for our less-fortunate citizens and veterans is essential. According to my Buddhist religion, helping other people who need help is a very good thing to do. According to The Dhammapada: 122, "Think not lightly of good, saying it will not come to me. Drop by drop is the water pot filled. Likewise, the wise man, gathering it little by little, fills himself with good.' So I donated whatever I can." Ngoc Do works as a receptionist at SPOT and at Panda Express restaurant. SPOT is the tutoring branch of CASA. Not only the IPFW community, but also other community agencies have a contribution day. They include Parkview and St. Joseph Community Health Foundation, the American Health Association and the Salvation Army.

Photo by Sam Win / swin@ipfwcommunicator.org

COLLECTION: Jo Bauman posts flyers above a collection container for jackets and health products.

Grants for diversity initiatives distributed

By Courtney Eyer
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Three campus organizations have teamed up to distribute grants for diversity initiatives on the IPFW campus. The Diversity Council, the Office of Multicultural Services and the Women's Studies Program all are involved in the project.

The grants are intended for projects that will establish a welcome environment for diversity on campus. Anyone may submit a proposal, students, faculty or staff. Proposals should, however, be for collaborations by a combination of these various groups. The collaborative aspect is a new requirement for grant applicants.

Jeanette Clausen, associate vice chancellor for faculty affairs, stressed the necessity for collaborative efforts: "This year's call for proposals stipulates that the proposed initiatives must involve collaboration among two or more groups. That was not the case with previous grant programs."

Initiatives should focus on four aspects of diversity: recruitment and retention, campus climate, curriculum and outreach. Recruitment and retention should involve a joint effort between a student group and an academic unit. Curriculum initiatives should bring students and faculty together, while outreach programs should seek out at least one partner in the greater community.

Campus climate programs bring all of the groups together for an overall campus benefit. Proposals also require detailed explanations of how projects or initiatives will obtain the goals put forth in conjunction with the greater campus strategic plan.

Also important is an assessment plan, which will determine whether the goals of a project have been achieved upon its completion. The maximum grant amount typically awarded for each project is $3,000.

However, the merit of a project may make a greater award appropriate. Groups needing a proposal form or those having trouble finding a partner for a project can contact Clausen for assistance. Grants are awarded until the funding for diversity initiatives has been used entirely.

Diversity has long been a goal of IPFW.

In 1994, Chancellor Michael Wartell declared the following as part of a campus statement regarding the issue. "Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne recognizes, affirms, and celebrates the diversity in its campus, local, state, and national communities."

Assessments such as last spring's Campus Climate survey display the successes and failures of IPFW's celebration of cultural variety.

"Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne seeks to demonstrate through its curriculum, support systems, and policies that it values these differences, creating and maintaining a campus environment that welcomes diverse characteristics, backgrounds, and experiences and identifying such diversity as a vital source of the intellectual, social, and personal growth essential to a university education," Wartell said in the 1994 diversity statement.

These Diversity Grants are just another way for the campus to come together as a community.

Previous grants have gone to the Honors Program to increase diversity within the program. Also, various courses have been restructured to discuss in depth the nature of their topics on global diversity.

Language in Society and Physical Systems of the Environment are two examples of restructured courses.

Several departments, including the Division of Organizational Leadership & Supervision and the Communications Department, have received grants to increase the diversity of their curriculum.

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The Communicator welcomes responses. Letters to the Editor must be signed, dated and accompanied by a current address, telephone number and class standing (if one of applicable). Letters not meeting these requirements will not be considered for publication.

All submissions made via e-mail will be verified by telephone or in person. Addresses and telephone numbers will not be published.

Submissions must be typed, and no more than 700 words.

The editorial board of The Communicator reserves the right to edit all submissions for length, grammar, style, and clarity. Letters deemed potentially libelous by the editorial board will not be published under any circumstances.

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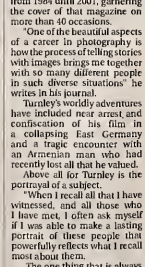
educational center where parents can go to learn constructive techniques for conflict resolution.

The Family Studies Center at Notre Dame was founded in June of 1999. Two on-going projects are currently being managed through the center. The Me and My Family Project and the project involving Professor Cummings, Couples and Kids.

The Couples and Kids study began in January of 1999. It investigates how couples manage their everyday troubles and how this management influences children. According to the program's website, "this study utilizes innovative methodologies" hoping to ultimately "define and distinguish between constructive and destructive parental conflict behaviors." The study claims that destructive marital conflict threatens the mental wellness of children, while constructive conflict allows for positive development in a child.



TURNLEY

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2001, enlisting his services as a contributing editor and photographer. Four times yearly, Turnley publishes an eight page photo-essay for the magazine.

Turnley was a contract photographer for Newsweek from 1984 until 2001, garnering the cover of that magazine on more than 40 occasions.

"One of the beautiful aspects of a career in photography is how the process of telling stories with images brings me together with so many different people in such diverse situations" he writes in his journal.

Turnley's worldly adventures have included near arrest and confiscation of his film in a collapsing East Germany and a tragic encounter with an Armenian man who had recently lost all that he valued.

Above all for Turnley is the portrayal of a subject.

"When I recall all that I have witnessed, and all those who I have met, I often ask myself if I was able to make a lasting portrait of these people that powerfully reflects what I recall most about them.

The one thing that is always clear in my mind is that the people and their stories, and the themes of life that I photograph are always more important to me than the process of photography itself."

The Communicator

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Newswire

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Professor speaks out against Bush

By Fiza Najeeb
The Poly Post
Cal Poly-Ponoma

(U-WIRE) POMONA, Calif. - Dr. Dennis Loo, a behavioral science professor at Cal Poly, discussed his essay "No paper trail left behind: The theft of the 2004 presidential election" at the Campus Forum on Wednesday.

The moment Loo stepped on the podium, he stated George W. Bush "was never elected, and needs to be unelected." Loo delved into a compilation of statistics and facts, which he believed could prove Bush did not actually win the 2004 presidential election.

In Loo's essay, he wrote, "Bush got more votes than registered voters... [and] won re-election despite approval ratings below 50 percent."

Loo also brought up the fact that "CNN reported at 9 p.m. EST on election evening that Kerry was leading by three points in the national exit polls based on well over 13,000 respondents, [and only] several hours later at 1:36 a.m. CNN reported that the exit polls, now based on a few hundred more - 13531 respondents - were showing Bush leading by two points...a swing of five percentage points from a tiny increase," which he believes is "mathematically impossible." He mentioned "irregularities" that occurred in the 2004 elections, such as "banning black voters in Florida who were placed on the felons list by mistake, while not banning convicted Latino felons, [and] providing extraordinarily few voting machines in predominately Democratic precincts in Ohio".

In an election, exit polls are used to catch frauds, however, Loo wrote there has been "significant," inexplicable discrepancies between exit polls and official tallies only [starting to show] up in the U.S. in 2000...the discrepancy was not the exit poll's fault... but in the official tallies themselves."

In November 2004, the Ukrainian government was exposed for "presidential election fraud" with exit polls as evidence, but "the U.S. media dismissed anyone who pointed out this same evidence of likely fraud in the U.S. elections as 'conspiracy theory crazies,'" said Loo.

After the election of Bush in 2004, surveys showed American's voted for him based on "moral values." Dr. Loo questioned this due to President Bush's past history of being "caught in a lie about why we went to war with Iraq, racked by prison abuse and torture scandals at Abu Garib, failing to catch Osama Bin Laden, badly embarrassed during the debates, and [being] caught sleeping prior to 9/11."

Recently, especially before November 2004 elections, there was a lot of emphasis for younger voters to participate in their civic duty. With regards to political efficacy, Or. Loo believes "voting doesn't really matter."

He emphasized the power the "weapon of public criticism" can have on authority by using examples from history.

"The women's rights movement [which] organized, marched, rallied, and demanded nothing less than equality," said Loo.

He also said the anti-Vietnam war movement, the Civil Rights movement, and the recognition John F. Kennedy and President Lyndon B. Johnson gave to racial discrimination "shook this country to the core."

"We must create our own hurricane of truth. People that don't like Bush are in the majority. We have the truth and more people on our side," said Loo, as he encouraged all students to take part in informing and educating people. "Understanding is a very powerful thing."

"What I heard here confirmed that students need to be more politically active, and less apathetic," said junior Brian Escobedo at the conclusion of the presentation.

Duke researches paranormal

■ Former university Parapsychology Laboratory now used to condust ESP experiments that shed light on the paranormal

By Victoria Weston
The Chronicle
Duke University

(U-WIRE) DURHAM, N.C. - Joyce Oaniel sees ghosts.

Daniel, who recalls multiple experiences with the paranormal, is a volunteer at the Rhine Research Center Institute for Parapsychology, an independent organization located just off the edge of West Campus.

Formerly known as the Parapsychology Laboratory at Ouke University, the center attempts to foster a better understanding of the paranormal through scientific research.

Topics under investigation include telepathy, precognition, psychokinesis and clairvoyance.

Daniel saw her mother, who had recently passed away from a stroke, while in the kitchen. "I saw her like a picture on the refrigerator. She just sat there and smiled," Daniel said. "She comes back occasionally now. I smell her perfume."

Like Oaniel, those who work at the center hope that their studies will help provide credibility for a field often treated with skepticism and disbelief.

Although parapsychological research is no longer conducted by the University, Duke was a pioneer in the field for several years thanks to the existence of the center.

The center was established on campus in 1935, a few years after founder J.B. Rhine came to Ouke to consult with William McDougall, a famous British psychologist.

"The science part, which wants to see if there's anything to this, started at Ouke when my father came down here," said Sally Rhine Feather, Rhine's daughter and current director of development for the center. "I grew up in the field."

The center was the site of several well-known discoveries.

Dne of the most noted accomplishments occurred when former Duke professor of psychology Karl Zener designed a famous ESP experiment. Zener cards-featuring various symbols, such as stars and wavy lines-are still used in ESP testing today.

In 1962, J.B. Rhine retired from Ouke, but he chose to continue his research by moving his laboratory off campus, where individuals like Daniel and Rhine Feather continue to study the paranormal today.

Although Oaniel's encounter may seem unusual, psi experiences -- a general term used to describe parapsychological phenomena -- may be more common than many people realize.

"It's as much like being asleep and being in the dream state as we can get in a laboratory, and that's where we think it's the most conducive for ESP to operate," Rhine Feather said.

"People write to me every day with remarkable stories," Rhine Feather said.

In a 2001 Gallup poll, 65 million Americans reported that they had personally experienced extra sensory perception.

ESP is currently being studied at the Rhine Center.

"We've just completed a study of the ganzfeld research," Rhine Feather said. "It's a telepathy study where one person is sending messages to a person in another room."

In the experiment, two subjects are placed in separate, red-lit rooms, where they sit in chairs while wearing earphones, Rhine Feather said.

They have ping pong balls placed over their eyes.

"It's as much like being asleep and being in the dream state as we can get in a laboratnry, and that's where we think it's the most conducive for ESP to operate," Rhine Feather said.

The study found that participants who are emotionally or biologically close to one another perform significantly better on the tests than strangers.

The ganzfeld study does not prove the existence of ESP, but researchers hope that it will help them validate psi experiences and expand their knowledge of the process.

For Daniel, the comfort provided through ESP has helped her through several trying times.

While one of her sons was serving in the Navy, he spent a year on a submarine, causing Daniel distress.

"One evening when I was meditating, I suddenly found myself in a black, black place and I knew I was under the ocean," Oaniel said. "I went through the water and I saw this long oval shape. I knew that was his submarine. I went through the wall and floated by the ceiling until I found him."

Oaniel added that her son recalled seeing her at the same time.

For the center, disassociating from the University has proved both beneficial and burdensome to its ability to conduct studies.

A decline in funding has put a damper on research, Rhine Feather said. Current efforts have focused more on outreach through lectures and seminars held at the center.

"I'd like to see us coming back into the mainstream," Rhine Feather said.

That time may be distant-but for now, believers such as Daniel will continue to support the field.

"They're afraid of it," Oaniel said of skeptics. "It's really scary when you think about it. We depend on knowing that what we know and see and hear and feel is real-and you get into the paranormal, and you find out that it's not real. There's so much other stuff there."

The Rhine Research Center Institute for Parapsychology will continue the ESP experiments through the end of November.

They will focus on the type of phenomena that Oaniel describes in her experiences.

OSU ends month with drag contest

By Karri Pasteris
Daily Barometer
Oregon State University

(U-WIRE) CORVALLIS, Ore. - Friday's fourth annual Orag Competition wrapped up Queer History Month in a flurry of music, vibrant costumes and enthusiastic performances by participants and audience members alike.

The competition, sponsored by the Rainbow Continuum and open to all students who wished to compete for the King or Queen of the Beaver crowns (or simply perform in exhibition), was considered "a smashing success" by co-director Luke Sugie.

"I'm blown away by all of the performers," he said. "I thought the energy was much better."

Seven competitors performed two numbers each to a sold-out MU Ballroom of more than 4S0 people, many of whom chased competitors down the catwalk to tuck dollar bills into shirts and waistbands in appreciation.

But in the end, the voting tickets did the talking, and the 2004 royalty passed the crowns to King Brock and Queen Potpurri Ali.

"I'm excited because I put so much time and effort into it," Queen Potpurri Ali said. "We bend gender because we can, we understand what it's like to be on the other side. It shows a little piece of the gay world to those who may never be exposed to it."

In the spirit of Halloween, some patrons came dressed in their own costumes, including a French maid, a pirate and a ditch digger with a shovel.

"[Oregon State University] students seem to love drag," Sugie said. "And drag performances on this campus are popular. Really, insanely, hugely popular."

Popular to the point of overflow, as Friday's and past years' attendance figures have shown.

Last year, the competition was held at Club Escape; after its capacity of 350 was filled, over 200 people waiting outside were turned away.

This year, Rainbow Continuum executives decided to move the event to the MU Ballroom in order to accommodate the crowd.

But the bigger space came with bigger costs.

"Room setup, lighting, sound, security ... all of it is bigger and more costly to set up in the ballroom when compared to Escape," Sugie said.

The Rainbow Continuum sold tickets for $2 to help recover some of those costs. The tickets also guaranteed entry into the show.

Although the MU Ballroom offers more physical space, Rainbow Continuum Co-director Kurt Richman surveyed the floor set-up and is hoping to find a better configuration for future events.

"We only got 100 more people in (than in Escape)," he said. "People were asking for tickets just before the show and we had already sold out."

Before the show began, Rainbuw Continuum Social Oirector Alison Wiesner was anxious to note how the difference in location would take effect.

"Escape has an underground and gritty feel," she said. "It's more intimate and personal."

Some conservative students on campus were concerned about the drag competition's move to the more central location for other reasons.

"I understand that there is always an 'if you don't like it, don't go' attitude of society, and most of the time I would agree with that statement," said Niklas Warren, a senior in political science and member of the College Republicans. "However, I feel that this is just another attempt to promote an 'in your face' agenda of the gay movement.

"While I accept their basic right to hold such an event, I really question their motives and how it really relates to the promotion of gay tolerance on a serious basis," Warren, 22, said. "I would like to see the Pride Center use our student fees toward a more constructive form of public awareness as opposed to this 'shock and awe' campaign that has been waged in the past."

Rainhow Continuum and Pride Center staff are aware of the conflicting interests of students on campus, but Friday's competition went without Incident.

"To my knowledge, we've never had to use security to kick people out of the show," Sugie said. "We've never had any group come out and publicly say that they disapprove of the show."

Illinois faces one year of probation

By Michael Gendall
Badger Herals
University of Wisconsin

(CSTV U-WIRE) MADISON, Wis. - The NCAA placed the University of Illinois on a one-year probation last week for violations in its football program. Both the association and the university, however, indicated the Big Ten school handled the situation as well as could be expected.

The offense consisted of a football prospect who later became a student athlete at the university receiving "impermissible" inducements and benefits from a booster, including a job for which the student was considerably overpaid.

"There is absolutely nothing that could have been done to avoid it," Illinois Assistant Athletic Oirector for Media Relations Kent Brown said. "The parties involved had all been given information, in fact the booster Involved had been spoken to twice ahead of time before the job was started by the young man."

NCAA Associate Director of Media Relations Kent Barrett agreed Illinois did a good job handling the situation, and cited this as the reason for giving the university a lenient sentence.

"This is an extremely light penalty and that light penalty really reflects the good work the university has done," Barrett said. "What this does is it sends a message to the athletic director [who] did do a good job, but also boosters from around the country."

When asked exactly what sanctions would be taken against the university in their probation period, Barrett equated the probation to "constructive criticism."

"There is no penalty. That is the penalty -- you're on probation," Barrett said. "If we didn't have a penalty like this then it would be a free-for-all."

Although Brown said he's been told the penalty was the lightest ever given for a major violation, he said Illinois remains "stunned" by the NCAA's decision to classify the offense as a major (and not a secondary) violation.

"This met the criteria for a secondary violation," he said. "There's no way to avoid [what happened] but once it was detected it was handled swiftly and decisively."

The infraction was actually uncovered by Illinois's own compliance program, which Brown said closely monitors the actions of its athletes, including what cars they are driving and how they were obtained.

"Our current system is what caught this and so the only thing we can do is make our fans and boosters even more aware," Brown said. "Our system worked."

David McDonald, special assistant to the University of Wisconsin chancellor regarding athletics, said UW takes similar measures in its attempt to ensure relationships between its boosters and student-athletes are appropriate.

"The burden on the university is to do everything you can, within reason," McOonald said. "What you do is you continually educate and brief your student-athletes and your boosters."

Another point McOonald said UW tries to convey to boosters and student-athletes is the community surveillance of their activities and the inherent difficulty in getting away with any infractions.

"You also have to remind student-athletes and boosters that in a community the size of Madison, I would imagine Urbana-Champaign is the same way, that you're in a fishbowl and you're very visible," he said. "Your community becomes its own sort of enforcement auxiliary as well."

Brown said the penalty particularly "stings" because Illinois will now be labeled as a recruiting violator, a stigma he said they have diligently attempted to erase over the past years.

"There were two major incidents in the '60s, another major Infractions case in the '70s and one in the '80s and one in the early '90s, and that's why we have taken such a hard line over the last 1S years to build a reputation and a culture here that [such incidents] will not be stood for," he said.

The athletic department takes some satisfaction, Brown added, in the fact nobody from the university was involved in the offense, just a booster and a student-athlete.

Both the booster and the student have been subsequently disaffiliated with the university, the booster for a period of at least three years, and the student permanently, as he transferred to Youngstown State University this summer.

"We have a good compliance program here and a great climate to work in," Brown said. "We're [just] going to have to be even more diligent."

The Communicator

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Podium

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Supreme Court nomination can be solved with reality television

SNYDERemarks

By Chelsea Snyder
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It's been a shaky past few months for the Supreme Court of the United States. With the summer resignation of Sandra Day O'Connor and the death of William Rehnquist, President Bush has been faced with the daunting presidential duty of appointing two new faces to the Supreme Court, one of whom would be chief justice.

While the appointment of now-Chief Justice John Roberts proceeded relatively smoothly (with only minimal blood shed on Capitol Hill, and someone may have thrown a pen down in anger), the appointment, and later, the resignation of nominee Harriet Miers has left political experts abuzz with who – and how – President Bush will select his next nominee.

In the spirit of democracy, I feel only one true method of selection exists in today's society.

We must create a reality TV show.

That's right. Ten nominees, the best of the best, men and women at the head of the pack. Put them in a camera-riddled house, make them compete weekly for immunity and prizes, and in the end, only the strongest will survive.

Immunity challenges could include such games as the Abortion Relay Race, in which contestants must maneuver in a tricycle around irate pro-life protesters and pro-choice marches, or the Living Wage Pie-Eating Contest, where contestants are confronted with pies filled with ramen noodles, Easy Mac and cockroaches.

Only the strongest and smartest will survive.

Who will be the first to form the alliance? Will it be the circuit judge from Ohio with an ulterior motive to screw over the ditzy blonde district attorney? Will the appellate judge from Texas be the quiet, conniving loner?

The fights will be spectacular. They will be heated and filled with filibustering and litigation. Doors will be slammed. There will be muffled crying behind the closed bathroom door. There will be heated drunken arguments outside the nearby bar. Naturally, the most arbitrary individuals will be forced to room together within the house.

And I want to see hook-ups. Sweaty, wrinkly, supremely judicial hook-ups on night-vision camera coverage.

Every week, someone must leave the show. Not everyone is cut out for a position on the Supreme Court, and nobody knows this better than John Q. Public and his touch tone phone.

It has been proven time and time again that the American public is the best judge of character and talent. After all, if it weren't for us, Clay Aiken would still be a special education teacher in North Carolina, and Kelly Clarkson and Justin Guarini would have never created the stroke of cinematic genius that is "From Justin to Kelly."

Okay, so we made a few bad judgment calls, but that doesn't change the fact that nobody knows what is best for the American public than we the people. And we are willing to text message "JUDGE1" from our cellular telephones as many times as it takes to show we know what we're talking about.

In the time it takes to film and air one season of "Love and Justice" (best in mind, this is just the working title), the American media will have easily bypassed the Senate confirmation hearings in quality of the final nominee and the time it takes to arrive at that decision. And we the media will silence and squelch any opposition to this seemingly unorthodox method of selection in a highly technical method we in the business call "Putting Your Fingers in Your Ears and Going La-La-La-La."

Desperate times call for desperate measures, and we can't afford to let this opportunity to encourage public involvement in the governmental process. Voting apathy ratings are alarmingly high, and what better way to involve the American population than give them a 1-800 number to call and make their voices heard. Get rid of that slut that hooks up with all the guys! Keep the hot appellate judge from Texas!

While I await my contract deal with NBC, I am also accepting applications for contestant positions. And yes, I take bribes.

God bless American television.

Don't let grades go south

If you look outside, you see the leaves start to turn, the geese begin t migrate and you begin to wonder, "What in the hell am I doing sitting in class?" You begin to skip class, drink, smoke dope and before you know it you're stuck in the unemployment line because you got fired from a dead end job because you drank too much, doesn't sound pretty does it. No it does not at all.

Simply because things are dying all around you, and animals run away from you doesn't mean that you need to lose all hope.

Keep going to class, you can pass. Give that Psyche 120 one more shot.

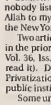
It's better than being sucked into driving 4 kilos of smack across the border and getting caught. School is especially important at this time in our lives.

You've seen the people who didnt go to college, you've seen the lives they lead. Yes, sometimes being a ditch digger or a hitman could be more exciting, but where is the reward in that?

What is better than knowing that you paid $20,000 dollars for a piece of paper that says your smart and that you paid a lot of money for it?

This is what I suggest. Wake up, shower, shave, have some breakfast, migrate to school, go to you r classes, do your homework, take your tests, pass your tests, give those speeches, avoid your friends, become a scholastic hermit, don't party, study a lot, make friends with a librarian, enjoy the college life, accept that you're broke, study some more, wake up for finals, pass your finals, do it all over again for about 3 more years and then migrate to a southern climate.

Future for higher learning a shaky one



Simply Ludicrous

By Courtney Eyer
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From now on I would appreciate if you could refer to me as Courtney, the Higher Education Prophet. What did I say in my column a few weeks ago? I seem to recall something regarding higher education "spiraling toward capitalistic oblivion."

Ah, capitalism, our bosom friend. Grahm Spanier of Pennsylvania State University, in an Oct. 16 article in the New York Times, puts it a bit less harshly when he talks about "public higher education's slow slide toward privatization." I told you guys, but nobody listens! This week, I have figures. Many thanks for the Allah to my Muhammad, the Jehovah to my Moses, Sam Dillon of the New York Times.

Two articles by Mr. Dillon have provided legitimacy for my claims in the prior column ("Making a GPA Meaningless" Communicator Vol. 36, Iss. 6 ...psst...I think it's still posted online if you want to read it). Dillon's first article, "At Public Universities, Warnings of Privatization," claims that the national average for state funding of public institutions is 64 percent, down 10 percent from 1991.

Some universities, like the Universities of Michigan and Virginia, use taxpayer money for less than 20 percent (18 and eight percent respectively) of their operating budget.

This is great, right? Less taxpayer money means less money out of your pocket. Wrong.

When a university uses public money the public actually has a chance to say what the university does and how they do it, what they build and why they build it, not to mention our tuition has a much slimmer chance of increasing.

While experts try to write the decrease in public funding off as an economic diversion for our incessant recession, they ignore the fact that the decrease began during the boom nineties.

A university's ritual avoidance of public funds results in necessary tuition increases and the maintenance of our university administrators as little more than lobbyists, donning their money-grubbing game-faces with ease at the numerous university fundrais...I mean, banquets.

In Dillon's article a president emeritus from the University of Illinois, Stanley O. Ikenberry, even claims that as state budgets shrink, it becomes more difficult to cut other state programs like Medicaid, public schools, and (yes, you are about to read this correctly) prisons! Prisons...by far more important than higher education. I sense a flaw in our priorities.

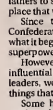
A second article by Dillon, "Tuition Rise Tops Inflation, but Rate Slows, Report Says," focuses on how this year, as in recent years, tuition increased 7.1 percent, much more rapidly than the inflation rate. Again, the fact that limited state money results in increased university pricing is key.

In one of the saddest quotes I have ever read Patrick M. Callan of the National Center for Public Policy and Higher Education states, reiterating my notion of capitalistic oblivion, "more kids are graduating from high school every year, most of them want to go to college...it's a seller's market. Universities raise tuition because they can."

These issues should truly concern all students, parents, and even the instructors and administrators of our fine university.

As for me, I just hope Sam Dillon keeps writing these education articles for the New York Times, or else I'm going to wind up in the feral position on his doorstep, begging for some higher educational enlightenment.

All hail to the United States of Division



Trade Mark

By Anthony Maurer
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People who wanted to stand together against an oppressive empire started this country. It was the purpose of our founding fathers to set forth a simple set of ideals and concepts to create a place that was both structured and accepting at the same time.

Since the Declaration of Independence and Articles of Confederation, we have seen this country grow exponentially past what it began as over 200 years ago. We have become the imminent superpower in the world, both economically and militarily.

However, in this time where America has become more influential and powerful than the loftiest hopes of its original leaders, we have met some of the fiercest opposition to the very things that have made our country great.

Some historians could speculate that we have become the modern-day equivalent to ancient Rome. I would argue that the United States are distrusted and resented more now than ever before.

Support for our endeavors in foreign policies isn't what it was in even in the recently past Cold War Era. The same countries who are our allies have openly criticized our actions in the Middle East and Asia.

On our own soil, the president has been ostracized by a large number of his own citizens. War protests have sometimes evolved into protests of the current administration more so than the war itself.

Where is the unity in it all?

There is one side of the political spectrum that claims patriotism has taken a back seat to blind nationalism, discrimination and hate crimes. The other claims all those who are not in full support are anti-patriotic and have thoughts and actions bordering on treason.

What I see as an observer of these events is a country divided sharply in red and blue lines, and the battlegrounds are well laid.

I think I would tend to agree with George Washington; as much as I like the advantages of the two-party system, sometimes it's best not to be on one side or the other. There is also the sentiment that anytime people choose an affiliation, they do nothing more than create further division amongst themselves.

People hate President George W. Bush for leading the country into armed conflict, especially in Iraq. I do not exaggerate when I use the word hate, either. "Not my president, not my war," is the one thing that bothers me the most.

Yes, he didn't get much more than half the registered voters' ballads in the last election. He is the President of the United States, no matter how many people didn't vote for him.

We are, whether any of us choose to admit it or not, citizens working and living in the same country where the most important decisions are made behind the desk where he sits.

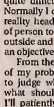
Democrat, Republican, Libertarian, Green Party, Independent, whatever; we are all Americans. Every level-headed citizen has the same essential needs and lives to obtain similar goals. I would argue that the whole political and social situation has been dehumanized by the fact that different ideologies are, quite simply, different.

There is much to be said about this sad situation. Therefore I will stick to my general point.

This nation is made of many peoples, thoughts on what is right and wrong and numerous cultures and religions. By default, it is a nation of division.

This division, although unavoidable, depends on nothing more than how far the gap is made by those who share the space. We are those people, and this is our country. It is up to us to decide the distance that has to be crossed to bridge the gap between us, between the stars and stripes.

Worth in usefulness or importance



In Other Words

By Brianna Belford
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Coming to grips with what is truly of value in my life has been quite difficult this past week. Normally I don't attempt to hit reality head-on. I'm the type of person to quietly wait on the outside and look at reality from an objective (and safe) place.

From there I can solve most of my problems and am able to judge what is needed and what should be thrown out. I'll patiently attempt to place value on the relationships, the objects, and the time I spend on them.

Money has little value to me, this I know and have known for a while. But sometimes I place a higher value on things than I should. I often don't pay attention to what is truly important until I'm hit in the face.

Last week I brought my computer in to be repaired. I was unable to click anything up but was reassured that I didn't need to- the only thing being touched was my CDrom drive. When I went to pick up my computer I swear the last four years of my life flashed before roy eyes.

I'm a photography major and I could see every picture in my head. Although I started to have a nervous breakdown in the computer office a voice calmed me. A random lady, perhaps the secretary, was talking about her chemotherapy and how every day was a blessing. The wrecking ball of reality swung down and knocked me on my ass.

I started to have a panic attack. In life there are moments that run parallel to one another. Two people stand side-by-side and begin to sift through the things they place value on in their life.

As I stood next to this lady who was beginning to value the simplicity of waking up each morning I was crying over photographs from my trip abroad. I was crying for my photography portfolio. I was crying for the countless memories I had captured in Europe and for the countless hours spent choosing just the right pictures to put into my professional portfolio. I was crying for the tears and sweat spent writing my poetry and short-fiction.

I was crying for the English and history papers I had been so proud of. Most of all, I was crying because here I was getting all emotional about pictures of memories I'll always have while a stranger next to me was discussing her last days.

All of that reminded me of when I moved. Every material possession, including photographs, was put into a box. Others would most likely judge my worth, the value of who I am as a person, by what the boxes contained.

Each time I pack something I realize that my life is not what is inside of those boxes, and I am not what was inside of my computer.

If I were diagnosed with cancer tomorrow I'd not care about my lost digital photos. If I were diagnosed with cancer tomorrow I'd be, or hope I'd be, just like that heroine in the computer office. I'd think of every day as a blessing, every sunrise as a gift, and every moment count.

Of course I am still upset about my computer and all that once was inside of it. (In fact, I'm contemplating spending a thousand dollars to have the files recovered.)

But the fact of the matter remains- the value of things, of people, or emotions are not overrated... they are overlooked when what we think we need is gone and what we have is right

Anti-feminist ideals present

By Rachel Alkon
Badger Herald
University of Wisconsin

Girls, drop your newspapers, books and classes! There's an anti-feminist trend emerging. "Are Men Necessary."

When Sexes Collide," a new book by the New York Times columnist Maureen Dowd, discusses why smarter women are less attractive candidates for long-term relationships.

To support her claim about men's desire for brainless ladies, Dowd cites a 2004 study led by Dr. Stephanie Brown, a social psychologist at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research.

The research, conducted on 320 undergraduates, revealed that "powerful women are at a disadvantage in the marriage market because men may prefer to marry less accomplished women."

If this is the case, then all of us striving for a leadership role - in college and at work - are ineligible candidates as girlfriends and wives. But does a woman's academic prowess really impede upon her to maintain a relationship?

Are men really that intimidated by intelligent, free-thinking women?

On a campus with a liberal reputation, in era of increasingly flexible gender roles, one would assume that independent women are in high demand. Who wants to date a beauty-queen moron?

I'd hope the supposed "open-minded" boys in Madison would hate to see their girlfriends in a subordinate role.

What happened to equality in relationships? What's so attractive about "less accomplished" women? Maybe she'll be more prone to wash underwear or reorganize a boyfriend's room?

It's true - smart girls are somewhat threatening, and often perceived, or misconceived, as demanding, critical, and too intelligent. But why does this laundry list of qualities scare men and place women at a disadvantage in the meat market?

I'm hesitant to agree that a box of rocks is more attractive than a bold, sharp and motivated woman.

Try pursuing a serious relationship with a brainless chick - at first she may make you melt, but beyond that her appeal will quickly dwindle. Try discussing politics with an idiot and you will be left arguing with a blank wall.

And while that outspoken girl from lecture may tangle a boyfriend into a few steamy debates, criticize his wardrobe, and ultimately fail to fit the mother-role he craves, she'll turn out to be an admirable role model, capable of offering solid, realistic advice and insightful, stimulating discussion.

Men, by retaining the intellectual upper hand, possess total sovereignty over their significant others. Dowd interviewed a New York producer, who explained that men "prefer women who seem malleable and awed."

Okay, let's analyze this statement: "malleable" - synonymous with pliable and flexible, terms associated with a subservience and eagerness to bend toward man's desires; and "awed" - meaning frightened or intimidated.

Does this mean men want to marry Barbie dolls they can twist and turn on a whim?

Is retaining control worth sacrificing a partner's intelligence? While selfless mates may be nurturing and caring, independent women make for better partners.

Dumb gals can be lusty eye-candy, but after spending a few days or years with this person a man will become vexed and intimidated with nothingness. In the short-term, a dim-witted woman can satisfy a man's needs, but in the long-term idiotic females become burdensome and reliant on their partners' advice for every trivial decision.

If Dowd and Brown have drawn accurate conclusions, men need to reevaluate their preferences for "malleable" girls.

The University of Michigan study shows that guys may have unrealistic perceptions about the opposite sex.

But when it comes to relationships, men cannot "have their cake and eat it too." Opposites attract, but do they endure?

And women can also learn a valuable lesson from Dowd: Even though a psychological study reveals a shift away from feminism, women should stick to their ambitious goals.

Without their own share of power and money, women will remain dependent, and "be mere domestic robots, lasering their legs and waxing their floors - or vice versa - and desperately seeking a new Betty Friedan."

Other countries should take the lead from here

By Bret Clevenger
Northern Star
Northern Illinois University

There's a major crisis brewing in the Middle East. There's nothing new or surprising in that sentence. What may surprise some of you is where this new crisis is occurring.

What may become the most important Middle Eastern crisis of the year is not happening in Iran, Israel, or even Iraq, but rather in Syria.

On Oct. 20, the United Nations inquiry into the assassination of former Lebanese Prime Minister Rafik Hariri was delivered to Kofi Annan, the U. N. Secretary General.

The report given to Annan suggests just that. The report states, "The former senior security officials of Lebanon were their appointees. Given the infiltration of Lebanese institutions and society by the Syrian and Lebanese intelligence services working in tandem, it would be difficult to envisage a scenario whereby such a complex assassination plot could have been carried out without their knowledge."

The report did not go as far as to implicate the president of Syria, Bashar Assad, or his political inner circle, which is made up mostly of his relatives. However, the Washington Post reported on Oct. 22, "The [U.N. inquiry] said Syria's long-time foreign minister, Farouk Charas, lied in a letter to investigators. It also cited one witness as implicating Assad's powerful brother-in-law, Asef Shawkat. Another claim that Shawkat, Assad's brother Maher and other senior officials played a role in planning the assassination was deleted from the final report."

Syria has strongly denied all these accusations. The Information minister, Mehdi Dakhllah, called the report "a political statement." He went so far as to state, "It is impossible that a fair court would accept a report like this, relying as it does on mere talk." If the findings of this report are correct, and it seems pretty clear they are, Syria has broken international law and for that there roust be repercussions.

In an interview conducted Oct. 24 with Dubai-based Al Arabiya, President Bush stated: "I'd be glad to talk to other leaders to determine whether or not that's the best course of action. But certainly, people do need to be held to account. And the first course of action is to go the United Nations."

According to the draft resolution, if the Syrian government does not comply with the U.N. investigation the Security Council will impose "further measures," meaning sanctions and possibly military tactics. Any U.S.-led action in the Middle East, whether sanctions or military action, will immediately be discredited by the people of the region as a continuation of the U.S.'s supposed goals of domination in the region.

This is the world's chance to prove it wasn't back down. Iraq was the United States' chance to prove, for better or worse, that we stick to our guns - literally. Syria is a battle we can't fight.

It's time the rest of the world to step up, flex some muscle economically and militarily, and do what it takes to bring the people responsible for the assassination of Hariri to justice.

Rosa Parks leaves great legacy

By Joseph Bakerville
Northern Star
Northern Illinois University

The 1950s and 1960s were a tumultuous era for blacks. The civil rights movement was a decades-long struggle, fought both in the courtroom and in the streets. Many people withstood degradation and were the object of torment for many cruel racists, all for the chance to be acknowledged as an equal human being.

Most of the aforementioned incidences were results of the action of one powerful, determined woman, Rosa Parks.

Parks was a woman best defined by her perpetual determination. When confronted with adversity, she challenged it. It was not Parks' intention to become a martyr for the civil rights movement. She was just a stubborn lady who saw a flaw in the societal norm and challenged it.

Her action is something that deserves great respect. Rather than acquiesce to what was accepted by most Southerners, Parks defied what she saw as unfair, choosing to forego the few rights she was granted in Alabama and go to jail for what she felt was right.

Parks is among the few people who posses the strength of character required to passionately protect what is right. Parks serves as a hero not only to blacks, but also to anyone who believes in equality, justice and humanitarianism.

Parks' simple act illuminated the demeaning treatment blacks were subject to across the nation. Millions of people responded to the deplorable acts of mistreatment through protests and boycotts of public buses.

The actions of this one woman inspired an entire revolution that sought to change the social standing of an underrepresented population.

Recently, Parks returned to the limelight for suing the popular musical duo Outkast for using her name in a song. Although this may seem like another excessive lawsuit, it is another example of Parks' personal protest against what she deems unfair. As with her 1955 bus protest, she saw something she did not agree with and acted on it, defying something that would have otherwise been socially accepted.

Parks taught America several very important lessons that should never be forgotten. The first is to always stand up for what you believe in. The second lesson is a single person can make great changes. Too often people believe they cannot make a difference by acting out against what they see as unjust, but Parks showed us this is not the case.

The final, and arguably most important lesson is that perseverance can mean the difference between success and failure. What would have happened if Parks gave up after the police confronted her for disobeying? Would de facto desegregation ever have been realized?

Sadly, segregation continues in several parts of the nation. Although it is not as prominent as it was 50 years ago, we cannot continue to ignore the lingering racism that continues to exist within our nation.

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Submissions can be sent to:
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Pope announces student voucher plans

By Justin Kenny
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The biggest game in IPFW history is still more than a month and a half away, but the athletic department is already preparing for it.

Athletic Director Mark Pope has announced a student voucher program for the Dec. 18 game against Notre Dame at the Memorial Coliseum. The program will ensure that students eager to get tickets for themselves and their friends will be able to get them before the general public is allowed to snatch up any remaining tickets. Pope has set aside 3,000 tickets for students, all of which he hopes will be used. If they are, it will make for a raucous student section, the likes of which has never been seen at an IPFW men's basketball game.

"I have talked to a lot of fellow athletic directors who have had similar situations, and this is the plan I have come up with," Pope said. "This is going to be a pretty popular event, all the early indications have beared that out."

Here is the plan: beginning the week of Homecoming, Nov. 14 through the 19, students at various places on campus will be allowed to pick up vouchers for the game against the Irish. These vouchers will most likely be given out at the same stations around campus where you will be able to vote for the Homecoming Court. To receive your voucher, students will only have to present their IPFW ID card to the employees working the station.

"It will probably be a swipe system, very much like what we do when students enter volleyball games," Pope said. "We want to make this as unobtrusive as possible."

Depending on availability, the vouchers will be given out through the Nov. 19 men's basketball game against Loyola-Chicago at the Coliseum.

After students have received their vouchers, they will then have to go to the Memorial Colliseum ticket office in the main lobby of the facility to receive their tickets to the game. All students will have to do is present their voucher at the ticket window and they will receive a ticket in the student section.

"We hope the students use every single one of those 3,000 tickets and scream loudly for us," Pope said. "The Coliseum box office will have tickets set aside for our students."

Students will receive as many tickets as they have vouchers. For instance, if a group of students are planning on going to the game but only one has time to go get tickets, that one person can take all his or her friends' vouchers to the box office and get tickets. For older students who might want to bring their family, when you pick up your tickets you can request a section out of the student section.

Once students receive their vouchers, they need to turn them in for tickets as soon as they can, because on Dec. 3 the vouchers will expire. At that point, Pope will know how many students are going, enabling him to take the remaining tickets and find others to buy them.

IPFW faculty and Royal Dons members will also have a chance to purchase tickets before the general public beginning Nov. 14. Royal Dons members will be given a voucher much like the students will receive at a Royal Dons function earlier in November. On Nov. 23, tickets will go on sale for the Notre Dame game for everyone at the Coliseum box office.

"To be honest, we have never been remotely close to 3,000 students at an IPFW event," Pope said. "But if we burn 3,000 vouchers and they are all screaming and yelling for us, we have had a successful event."

Pope has good reason not to think that 3,000 students won't come out for the huge event. Not only has IPFW never had such a big turnout of students, the game is also during Holiday Break, when students are either going home or not interested due to the holidays.

Double Vision: blurred sight

Ask Skip Hooligan

Random Rants and Thoughts
jkenny@ipfwcommunicator.org

Ah, yes, it is that time of the year again, and I'm not talking about the holiday season either, It's IPFW basketball season. The Blue and Brew Crew (I refuse to use "Beer Line" or "Tar Pit" or any other name, as I will digress later into this) will be back in action, and the overpriced beer that I so love will be flowing as will it be with my other drunken buddies. In my debut column, of which I will be discussing a few random rants about the world of sports, I will concentrate on IPFW athletics and a preview of the men's and women's basketball teams.

Rant #1—The Atmosphere at IPFW Games

I've attended nearly every men's basketball game in the last two years, and quite a few women's games and suffered through some horrible coaching (referring to a fired coach) and I have noticed that students are not coming to the games. The group Mastodons In Action (MIA) was formed to help bring out students to games, but have been hampered from that for undisclosed reasons.

I feel there is something missing. I'm sick and tired of watching kids do hula-hoop contests and knocking over pizza boxes (this was a MIA idea for STUDENTS, not kids). We need more contests that involve students and give them a reason to show up other than to drink.

Now, referring to what I mentioned above, I refuse to use any of the "clever" marketing nicknames that were given by IPFW's marketing department. Most student sections in America have good nicknames, for example, the "Cameron Crazies" at Wisconsin, or the "Izzone" at Michigan State. This is something we lack. Yes, I know about the "Tar Pit," I get it and it's dumb, and the "Beer Line" has to be one of the stupidest connotations ever created.

So, I am starting the pledge to make us the "Blue and Brew Crew." Also, if we ever become like Notre Dame or any other school that has synchronized cheers, I will literally dissolve any association with the University.

Also, one of my biggest pet peeves is the amount of security around the Blue and Brew Crew. We can't even begin to murmur a chant of the ever-popular "bullshit" when we get hosed. We are usually on constant watch by at least four police officers, three ushers, and two IPFW officials. It's outrageous, as college kids aren't we supposed to be having fun and making the most out of our years at IPFW? This isn't supposed to be a "family" atmosphere; it's a college basketball game. Go to any other university and you will undoubtedly hear worse stuff. I feel an overhaul is needed to increase more student attendance and this will be probably one of my more consistent rants throughout the year.

Rant #2—Midnight Madness

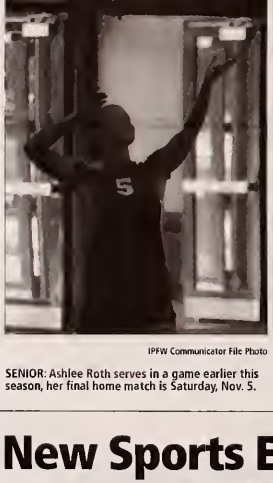
I only attended Midnight Madness for about 20 minutes this year, and I probably stayed 19 minutes too long. I, unlike maybe most people at IPFW, could care less about MTV and "The Real World" and "Road Rules" cast. Then again, maybe I am part of the majority.

In my opinion, I would say the crowd was a disappointment. Sure, there were a lot of people in attendance, but a lot of them were bored.

I don't know why we constantly waste every student's money around here (yes, EVERY student's money, look at your bill for student fees if you don't believe me). I know there are many diverse people around here and pleasing 10,000-plus students is impossible, but do something that relates to what the event is. My friends and I are huge basketball fans and we didn't even get to watch the teams practice because we were so bored at the lifeless "Battle of the Sexes." But this is nothing new as SAB has done this to us for years.

Men's and Women's Basketball Preview
▶ **HOOLIGAN:** *Page A8*

Final home game for trio



IPFW Communicator File Photo

SENIOR: Ashlee Roth serves in a game earlier this season, her final home match is Saturday, Nov. 5.

By Nick West
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The IPFW women's volleyball team plays its final home game of the season this Saturday, Nov. 5 at 5 p.m.

For the Mastodons' three seniors, it is the last time they will step foot on the Gates Sports Center floor in front of the ever-growing and raucaus crowd that has increasingly frequented the home games thanks, in part, to the trio's play over their careers as Mastodons.

For Fabiana Souza, Ashlee Roth and Erika Leitzke, this is it. After Saturday, the Gates Center will be just a practice facility for the seniors as IPFW prepares to defend its Independent Tournament championship on Nov. 10-12 at the University of Northern Colorado. The season will conclude with the tournament.

"I'm really sad," said Souza, the schools' all-time career kills record holder. "I don't feel like its going to end, but I know its going to come up some time. It just goes so fast. It seems like yesterday was my freshman year and I was just starting and it's just over."

Roth feels the same way as her senior counterpart.

"Well, it makes me sad, obviously because it is going to be one of my last games," Roth said. "I think it's a happy experience as well because to look back at four years of playing at IPFW it was an incredible experience for me."

Although Leitzke has spent just one year at IPFW after transferring from Troy University, since day one she has felt like a significant part of the program.

"It's a big deal; it's the end of my career anywhere," Leitzke said. "Had I transferred again, for example, it would be a big deal. It's my last match in front of people I know. It's a big deal all the way around for anybody."

When Souza and Roth started as freshmen in 2001, crowds were small, scattered with the players' parents and IPFW student-athletes. Part of that was because the school hadn't garnered attention as a true Division-I playing institution, the other was that the women's volleyball team wasn't as good as it is today.

In 2001, IPFW was in its first year as a D-I athletic program, and the volleyball team finished with just 13 wins. It was 18-5 as of Nov. 1 this season and attendance has reached around 900 at some home games. The reason, Souza said, is because fans enjoy cheering for winning teams. Roth agreed and was surprised when she discovered classmates and acquaintances who she really didn't know that have showed up to home games this season.

"It was so cool to talk to people in my classes that I didn't know who saw me play," Roth said. "People from my church that I'm not super close with show up at my games. It's neat to see people support me. For a women's sport, it's really awesome."

If the Mastodons can continue their success and defend their Independent Tournament crown, it will be the third of Souza's and Roth's careers. And, without question, that is an attainable goal for not just the seniors, but the entire team.

As seniors, each player has established goals to lead the team, set examples for the underclassmen, and to bring another Independent title to the school. While that isn't as far as the similarities go for the trio, each has set and reached

▶ **SENIORS:** *Page A8*

New Sports Editor takes helm

By Justin Kenny
jkenny@ipfwcommunicator.org

I am honored and privileged to announce that I will be the new sports editor for The Communicator. Dan Vance laid a great foundation and made the sports section what I believe to be the most popular section in the weekly publication at IPFW.

I will try to build on that success and hopefully, we will continue to grow both as a sports section and as a paper. I am a Communications major with a Journalism minor and I will be graduating in May.

I have worked for The Communicator for just over two years as a writer and a copy editor, and now I take the next step upwards. I am also a writer for The News-Sentinel and have been there for over four years now.

My goal when I graduate is to become a full-time writer with The News-Sentinel and continue my quest to become a very good sports journalist. As I said before, I believe Dan Vance laid a great foundation for this paper. He was not afraid to push the boundaries that most would not go to get a story. I will say this,

The Communicator sports section is not and will never be the IPFW Athletics Public Relations Department. We will do REAL journalism, if there is a story to be told that places the athletic office or anyone in the Gates Sports Center in a negative light, so be it.

That is our job as journalists, to tell the real story and inform the public. That said, we will not purposely step on toes or burn bridges because, quite frankly, we cannot afford to. But do not be surprised when not everything in our weekly publication places things here on campus in a positive light.

I will rely not only on myself but my other sports writers to pick up the slack that we have lost with the departure of Vance.

Tony Maurer, Nick West and Megan Yoder, among others, will be looked upon to do more insightful stories for the sports section. In the end, we want to produce the best possible product, giving an

▶ **SPORTS:** *Page A8*

Women win, men fall short

By Anthony Maurer
tmaurer@ipfwcommunicator.org

The women's soccer program finished off their regular season on a high note, winning big against Delaware State, 7-0. The game, played last Friday, saw the Mastodons score early and often. They also spread around the scoring, with twenty shots on goal in the contest.

Sophomore Brittany Saylor was the leading scorer for the Mastodons, kicking in three goals, including one in the first minute of play. Saylor would score again in the next five minutes off an assist by Lindsay Williamson.

Anika Apar would put the Mastodons up by another goal halfway through the first half. Then Saylor would step in again and get her third goal of the first half. Both Apar's and Saylor's were off of assists from freshman forward Danielle Orlandella.

Melissa Ellison also came off of the bench to help rack up the score for IPFW. Her goal came within seven minutes of the end of the half off of an assist by Heather Seerup.

At the half, IPFW was ahead 5-0 over Delaware State.

The second half would only prove to be more productive for the Mastodons, who would score two more goals in the shutout. The sixth goal would come from Apar again halfway through the half. It was an unassisted score, and Apar's second in the contest. The goal was her seventh of the year, beating last year's mark of six.

Apar was happy with her achievement.

"That felt great," Apar said. "It felt like I really accomplished something this season, but I'm also happy my teammates were there to give me those opportunities to score."

The exclamation point on the night came from Jaclyn Puntillo, who scored the last goal with just under fifteen minutes left on another assist by Seerup. The nets would be quiet for the rest of the night, as Delaware State was unable to get a shot off on goal the entire game.

In fact, Brittany Griffin was the only member of the DSU squad to get off a shot.

▶ **SOCCER:** *Page A8*

Six degrees is a new feature where we link an IPFW athlete or coach to a celebrity. This week, we link Saddam Hussein to Athletic Director Mark Pope.

6°

Saddam Hussein
former president of Iraq

was captured by members of the 4th Infantry Division commanded by Major General Raymond T. Odierno who...

graduated from West Point Military Academy in 1976, the same year Jimmy Carter was elected to the Presidency... who...

lost to Ronald Reagan in the 1980 elections...

Who visited Fort Wayne during the Great Flood of 1982, which seriously damaged buildings on the IPFW campus, including...

The Gates Sports Center which will undergo a $40 million expansion under the watch of...

Mark Pope
IPFW Athletic Director

International flair rounds off women's team

By Megan Yoder
myoder@ipfwcommunicator.org

At the stroke of midnight on October 14, Division I Basketball practice began for IPFW's men's and women's teams.

Soon, a busy schedule with countless road games will engulf the both teams, quickly pushing the regular season into the post season and spring with March Madness. But for now, a twilight zone is upon the Mastodons. Assessing last year's losses and new recruits, the 2005-2006 season is pristine, perfect.

The 5-23 record of last year's squad is but a memory, and the losses of Courtney Nicley and Verea Bibbs from the lineup are the furthest thing from their minds. Seniors Jenny Green, Kelly Boyd, and Geneva Murdock will anchor a new squad with promising new talent. Leading the way is junior transfer from Defiance College, Jessica Mast. Her strength from the perimeter should add some needed points to the scoreboard as well as versatility to the offense.

Also new to the Women's team are several international players. Yavapai Junior College transfer and 5'8 guard Pavia Pletkovà comes to IPFW from Arizona. Captain on her junior college team, Pletkovà will add a level of leadership to the young incoming class. Originally from Prague, Czech Republic, Patterson hopes that she strengthens the post players and adds to the team's overall rebounds.

From Norway, Tina Moen hopes to add a depth to the overall athletic ability of the squad.

A member of the Norwegian National Team for a year and a half, she was also chosen as a member of the All-Star Team for the elite division of her club team, one of five in Norway. With her height, at 6'0 and her talent, Patterson sees her as a potential Independent Player of the Year this season.

"We have high expectations for this incoming class," states Senior Kelly Boyd. "They are doing very well in practice and I think that they will realy help us out this year."

Along with the transfer students, many domestic faces have joined the 2005-1006 in the hopes of a better record than last year. They are: Samantha Edwards, Katie Schneider, Nanyamka Moore, Victoria Grossnickle.

Edwards is the only red shirt this season. A 6'0 Michigan native, her height will be a big advantage next year. Schneider is a 5'10 forward from Hammerville, Ohio where she averaged 25.5 points per game and set the school record with points in a single season with 532.

Her potential to score will help boost the Mastodon's overall scoring potential.

Moore is also from Michigan. Her speed and ball handling should lessen their turnovers this year. Grossnickle rounds out the incoming class. A 6'1 sophomore from Marian College, her previous experience as a guard should help with the turnover ratio as well down below.

So far, the team likes what they see: "We have a very good intensity, we play together really well," states Boyd. And with the fresh faces, new goals and standards are being placed upon this team: "We really want to improve upon last season," states Boyd. "We just want to take it one game at a time and get off to a great start."

Their first opportunity to do so will be on the 6th against Grossnickle's former school: Marian College. But they think that they are ready: "We have a little bit of everything," states Boyd. "We have some more size down below, and some great shooters around the perimeter. We are working well together and I think that will continue."

Photo by Amie Sarka / esarka@ipfwcommunicator.org

FREE THROW: Freshman guard Nanyamka Moore prepares for a free throw at a practice last week.

Women's Cross Country places third in championships

By Anthony Maurer
tmaurer@ipfwcommunicator.org

The women's cross-country program came away from the Division I Independent Championships , in Corpus Christi better than six of the other competitors. The Mastodons finished third in the field, trailing just Texas A&M-Corpus Christi and South Dakota State. The top four positions compesed in a close field, with only 21 points separating fourth place from first place.

IPFW finished 19 points behind Texas A&M-Corpus Christi at 45 with a score of 63. The biggest thing that helped IPFW was that two of the top five finishing places were Mastodons. Junior Ashley Ritchey paced over the line with a time of 17:26 to finish fourth. Right behind her in the running was freshman Crystina Martinez, who came is at fifth after a 17:28 finishing time.

Lauren and Kristen Simpson both placed in the top 20 on the night, coming in right behind each other with seventeenth and eighteenth place finishes. The sisters finished only one second apart from each other, with times of 18:02 and 18:03, respectively.

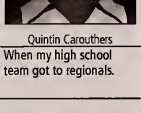
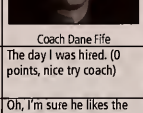
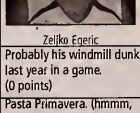
Crystal Martinez came in nineteenth at the competition. She clocked in at 18:08 in her first Independent Championship race as a Mastodon. Sophomore Valerie Hardesty finished forty-fifth in the race, with a time of 19:08. She wasn't too proud of her performance, but happy for the team. "Although I'm not too happy with my performance, I feel that our team did really well," Hardesty said. "Were starting to show everyone that we shouldn't be counted out"

Freshman Jessica Palevich finished fiftieth, beating out 15 of the other competitors with a time of 19:25. The top two finishers in the competition were both from South Dakota State. Becka Manshelm won the race with a time of 17:07, followed shortly by Katie Tornberg, who was three seconds behind her.

Rounding off the top three was Yvette Rodriguez from Texas A&M-Corpus Christi. She came in just ahead of Ritchey at 17:24.

$10,000 Questions

Who knows Quintin Carouthers better, his roommate or coach?

	 Quintin Carouthers	 Coach Dane Fife	 Zeljko Egeric
Best moment in QC's career playing basketball?	When my high school team got to regionals.	The day I was hired. (0 points, nice try coach)	Probably his windmill dunk last year in a game. (0 points)
Favorite post-game food or beverage?	I gotta go with soul food.	Oh, I'm sure he likes the steak. (Close enough, 3 points)	Pasta Primavera. (hmmm, let's give him 2 points)
One current or past NBA player you can play one-on-one with?	Dwayne Wade. (0 points)	Rip (Hamilton) (0 points)	Kobe (0 points)
One date, Halle Berry or Angelina Jolie?	Halle...ooo, wait....yeah, Halle Berry.	Halle Berry (5 points)	Halle, no question (5 points)
Worst thing you have to do in practice?	3-on-3 rebounding drills.	Running, they all hate it (wrong, but they do have to run a lot, so 2 points)	Run...a lot (2 points)
Who is the best dresser on the team?	There are some good dressers...but I'll say me.	I'd say QC (5 points)	Oh, that's him (5 points)
What is your worst habit on or off the court?	Losing my keys.	Being a pretty boy. (funny, but 0 points)	He is too clean. (0 points)
What is your favorite movie?	4 Brothers	Scarface (Coach, say hello to your 0 points!)	Dumb and Dumber (1 point, that movie is classic)
Leno, Letterman, or Conan O'Brien?	Gotta say Conan	I don't think he watches any of those (0 points)	None of them. (0 points)

So, it ends up at at a dead heat at 15 points apiece. The results make me think either Z has to get to know his rommmate better, or Coach Fife is too involved in his players' lives. Either way, it looks as if QC needs to put a homing device on his keys, and we will arrange that meeting with Halle Berry. -By Justin Kenny

▶ SENIORS
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contrasting goals throughout their college careers.

For Souza, a Belo Horizonte, Brazil native, it was to learn English and gain an American education. She learned the language in just a few months and is working on a Master's degree in Communication. She has two main options: earn the Master's and work as a graduate assistant for the 2006 volleyball team, or play professionally in Germany. She is leaning towards the former.

Roth wants to become a teacher and volleyball coach for high school-age girls. Her dream is to coach at her alma mater, Leo High School.

She currently has two coaching offers on the table, but could not disclose any details. She also has a year left before earning a degree in elementary education. She has gotten an early start on coaching, as she begins her second year with the Three Rivers Volleyball Club in January, directing the 16-year-old age group with junior teammate Claire Jackson.

Leitzke, like Souza, said she is looking into the possibility of playing professional volleyball somewhere and/or going to graduate school. She added that her goal coming to IPFW nearly two years ago (she red-shirted in 2004 to abide by NCAA rules) was to improve herself as a player and be prepared for the 2005 season. She currently holds five school records at Troy.

It should come as no surprise that when asked about what they would miss the most about IPFW volleyball, each senior responded with something along the lines of: "my team."

"They are like thirteen of my sisters," said Roth about her teammates. "This season has been awesome because we are all so close. It wasn't like that necessarily my freshman year. This year, and even last year, we were a super tight-knit team."

Leitzke agreed.

"You spend so much time with each other that you have no choice but to become close," Leitzke added. "You won't have a season like (we are) this year because you aren't close. You have to be close."

The four years of college volleyball has been an "incredible experience," in Roth's words, but the vibe each senior has given is that it is time to move on and take the next step in life. And although they may live far away from each other or not stay in touch, the three seniors of the 2005 class said they will take away lasting memories as IPFW student-athletes.

▶ SPORTS
From Page A6

accurate representation of the sports at IPFW to the student body, faculty and everyone else who picks up an issue. I am already familiar with most of the coaches and staff in the Gates Sports Center and I look forward to working with all of them. With that, I hope to further enhance the sports section into an informative and provocative publication. Any questions or comments can be sent to me at jkenny@ipfwcommunicator.org.

▶ HOOLIGAN
From Page A6

I will start with the men's team first. This year begins a new era with the hiring of former IU player Dane Fife. Now, I think Coach Fife will be very successful in coaching; it's in his blood with his father and him playing under legend Bob Knight (the book is still out on Mike Davis), but I'm sure we will see Fife coaching somewhere big sooner rather than later.

With that being said, I think this is the toughest situation a new coach could come into. The loss of Quintin Butler and Pete Campbell will be insurmountable. I don't count Beau Bauer as too huge of a loss; I think he can be replaced.

The team will need guards to step up immediately due to the loss of Byron and Jason Malone. There are only a few remaining holdovers from last year that played, including juniors Quintin Carouthers and Justin Hawkins and sophomore Zeljko Egeric.

Facing four Big Ten teams, including pre-season top five-ranked Michigan State, provides tough competition for the Mastodons. While there are many newcomers on this team, I can't comment on them until after the first game of the year, which I will then give a detailed and unbiased report on each.

This year looks rough for IPFW and a lot of beer might be needed at the games to get through them, but I feel next year can and will be a different story. When Fife gets a full year to recruit and a couple of transfers that should provide instant help, plus no seniors on this year's team, the future looks bright.

Now to the women's team. There were many losses on this team as well, with starters Courtney Nicely and Verea Bibbs gone and four underclass(wo)men leaving. The team has definite talent at the guard spot with Ashley Johnson, Johnna Lewis-Carlisle and Hilary O' Connell, but the inside game is shaky at best. The newcomers have a new international flare with three recruits from overseas and some other newcomers that could help out the Mastodons.

While I have yet to see any of these new recruits in action, they will be needed to provide help for the Mastodons. The schedule looks favorable for them, besides a date with Purdue, and they could pull out 10 -plus wins this year, if everything goes right for them. There will also be detailed reports on the new players after their first exhibition game this Saturday at the Gates Sports Center at noon.

That is all for this week, please send any questions about IPFW athletics or anything pertaining to sports at IPFW to my co-hort, Sports Editor Justin Kenny, at jkenny@ipfwcommunicator.org. He will pass along your queries to me, so I can rag on you and answer your tiffilating questions.

▶ SOCCER
From Page A6

In split time, Timeka Bailey and Shannon Lynn never had the opportunity to grab saves on the night, since there were no shots on goal from the opposition. The win was the fourth for IPFW, who head into the United Soccer Conference with a record of 4-11-3. DSU remains without a win on the season, falling to 0-13-1 after the game.

This is the week for the United Soccer Conference Tournament for IPFW. They will have already played the first round as of Nov. 4, and have the potential to play again on the 6.

Apar feels better going in to the tournament with a win.

"The win really helped lift the teams spirit because the season hasnt been going as we had hoped," said Apar. "The win brought the team together."

The men dropped their last game against Bowling Green on Sunday. Both teams took 14 shots against each other in the game, but the Falcons would be more effective, kicking two shots past goalie Michael Knitter. Knitter would get five saves to his credit on the night, with the two misses making the difference in the season finale.

Victor Webb would score the lone goal for the Mastodons off a penalty kick in the first half.

The score would actually put IPFW ahead for the rest of the first half. The Falcons couldn't get their offense going until the second half, but they did in a big way. Both goals came with less than ten minutes left in the game, but were scored quickly within a minute of each other. The loss drops IPFW's record to 3-16 going into their season finale tonight against Mid-American Conference opponent, Northern Illinois.

Bowling Green didn't fair much better in their efforts this season. The Falcons finished one game better than the Mastodons, with a mark of 4-12-2 on the season. Omari Aldridge, who scored the second goal, is now among the top ten single season scoring leaders in the division. IPFW had a rough year against MAC opponents this season, falling to all four of them by a total of ten goals to two. Their overall record fell four games from an 8-9-1 mark last season.

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Omnibus Lecture Series
Jean Chatzky
Talking Money with Jean Chatzky
Tuesday, Nov. 8, 2005, 7:30 p.m.
IPFW Walb Student Union Ballroom
Jean Chatzky is the financial editor for NBC's *Today Show* and the host of a series of money minutes, *Talking Money With Jean Chatzky*, on CNBC. She is the author of four books on personal finance, including her latest, *Pay It Down! From Debt to Wealth on $10 a Day*. Chatzky was named an editor-at-large of *Money* in February 1998. In addition to editing *Money* stories on various personal finance topics, she writes *Money Talk*, a monthly column on consumer issues and financial planning, as well as regular personal finance columns for *Time* magazine and *USA Weekend*. She is on the board of trustees of the March of Dimes and the board of directors of the Briarcliff Manor Education Foundation.
Free public lecture ▼ Free parking
Seating is limited. Doors open at 6:30 p.m.
Jean Chatzky's appearance is cosponsored by the Consumer Credit Counseling Service, Inc. of Northeastern Indiana.
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The Communicator

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A&E

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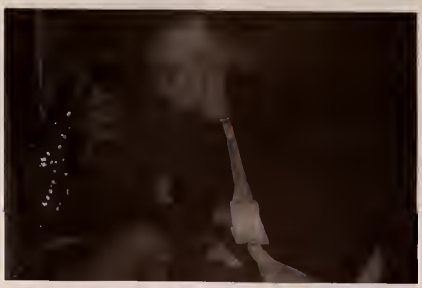

Rocky Night of Horrors

By Tim Rodgers
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Standing like fraternity pledges being led to the sheep and the KY jelly, students, adults and people of all ages, races, creeds and sexual orientations came to Walb Union on Saturday October 28th to witness that which is know as the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

An eclectic battalion of people gathered in the basement, some in costumes, some in drag and some in not much at all, in a showing of Halloween spirit that would rival even the grandest parties of Hollywood.

Canton of Aisland, a student group that performs medieval sword fighting, and Renaissance performances, along with the Spiritual Pagan Student Alliance took it upon themselves to treat the IPFW campus to a night of Time Warps, talented performances, and tucking back.

"Student Life was pushing us to put on an event on campus. We started researching and decided that Rocky Horror would be a good show to put on." Said Stephen Morgan, of the Spiritual Pagan Student Alliance.

With backing from the school and various other organizations, they were given the green light to put on a performance of The Rocky Horror Picture Show.

Rivaling the most risqué shows preformed at the Moulin Rouge, the rag-tag group of students banded together, recruiting friends, spouses, and everyone in between for this event.

"Sitting in a meeting, I heard that they were intending to do it without a live cast. Being part of live casts in both Las Vegas and Orlando, I said you can't do this without a live cast, it just won't work." Said Boe Powell, Vice President of Canton of Aisland.

With the addition and formation of a live cast, they proceeded into rehearsals for the show. They practiced 4 days a week and after a few people dropping out and having them replaced, the show was finally ready to go on.

With Kyle Richmond acting as the Master of Ceremonies, colorfully dressed as Riff-Raff the butler, the show took off at 6pm.

He moseyed through the crowd like a general inspecting his troops, eye balling the next candidate to be yanked upfront of the chanting crowd and stripped to their essentials.

Amidst the collective wail of noisemakers and obscenities screamed at opportune points of time, Rocky Horror beamed through the night.

"When Richard O'Brien wrote this, he combined all the genres, sci-fi meets horror, meets comedy, meets musicals and creates something rather beautiful. But it puts such a twist on it that allows a freedom of expression. You can break the mold of the straight laced, everyday person like Brad and Janet." Said Kyle Richmond

▸ **ROCKY:** *Page A10*

MIDDLE LEFT: Boe Powell struts his stuff in front of the crowd as Dr. Frank-n-Furter.

TOP RIGHT: A scene is played out from the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

LEFT: Kyle "Riff-Raff" Richmond and entourage preform the Time Warp, the trade mar dance of Rocky Horror.

TOP LEFT: Ranya Al-abboud strips a man down during the groom casting.

FAR LEFT: Boe Powell watched as Robert Kocks, playing Rocky rose from his makeshft bath.

Military Movie Top Ten Salutes Our Soldiers

By Anthony Maurer
tmaurer@ipfwcommunicator.org

War movies are the stuff of magic when they are done properly. They give people who have never experienced combat the perspective into the lives of the soldiers who lived the battles. The good ones make the audience feel as if they were in the wars and battles themselves. The great ones put the viewers inside the heads of the soldiers, feeling their pain, and every breath as they step. I have compiled a list of my favorite top ten American war flicks for you to chew on, straight from the brain of a soldier's son.

10.) Patton (1970)

George C. Scott pulls off a brilliant portrayal of the controversial World War II general, who was respected, feared and appreciated all at the same time. The film was produced in 1970, and directed by Franklin J. Schaffner. Fellow general and comrade of Patton's, General Omar N. Bradley, aided in the writing by co-authoring the book the movie was based off of. A must see for WWII buffs.

9.) The Patriot (2001)

Mel Gibson is a Revolutionary War officer who shows a character not unlike "The Swamp Fox" Francis Marion. As Benjamin Martin, Gibson displayed the life of a man who was a warrior, but also a family man who wanted peace. With stellar performances from co-stars Heath Ledger and Joely Richardson, the movie puts the audience knee deep in South Carolina swamp water.

8.) The Lost Battalion (2000)

Rick Shroder is Major Charles White Whittlesey, the commander of a battalion of over 500 men stuck out in front of their own lines with no support, and angry Germans around every tree. The story surrounds the World War I equivalent to the battle of Baston in WWII. Whittlesey's men are trapped deep in the Argone Forest and surrounded by German opposition. They held, survived and won-but not by much.

7.) Black Hawk Down (2001)

Ridley Scott directed this flick about 123 U.S. soldiers sent in on a rescue mission with bad intelligence and lackluster equipment; not to mention they came up against thousands of armed Somalis. It was a modern day military disaster, but the movie showed the gallantry of the soldiers involved.

6.) Battle of the Bulge (1965)

The second version of the big WWII push was cast very well. Henry Fonda and Robert Shaw were the main players in the film about the 1944 German counter-offensive. The film gave the perspective of both an American intelligence officer as well as a German Panzer Commander. A classic must have for the movie shelf.

5.) The Dirty Dozen (1967)

Ernest Borgnine and Lee Marvin lead a crack group of ex-convicts that are on a hell-bent mission to assassinate German officers and execute suicide missions for the Allies. The men fight with the hopes or earning pardons for their crimes, and see no other way to freedom besides in a body bag.

4.) Platoon (1986)

Oliver Stone assembled another blockbuster cast to shed light on some of the very scary truths about the Vietnam Conflict. Tom Berenger, Willem Dafoe and Charlie Sheen show the darker side of war. Platoon shows both the vile depths man can steep to in a time if conflict, and the duality of man as well. The atrocities of the conflict are highlighted as well as the inter-squad

▸ **TOP TEN:** *Page A10*

▸ **ROCKY**
From Page A9

Rocky Horror isn't simply a play or musical, it is a way of life. it's devoted fans celebrate its birthing over 25 years ago every Halloween.

The fans, people of all ages and races, exonerate the spirit of the show in a night of elaborate dances and audience interaction, make-up, and partial nudity.

They yank people out of their comfort zones and into the swirling vortex, which is the heart of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.

▸ **TOP TEN**
From Page A9

clashing of ranking sergeants.

3.)We Were Soliders (2003)

It was the first major battle of the Vietnam War that involved American troops. They were fathers, sons, husbands and brothers. Gibson pulls out another gem as Lt. Col. Hal Moore, giving the first person of the man in charge, and the man who has to see young soldiers fight and die. The big thing about the movie is that it shows how the media really starts to get more involved in war, and changed the American perspective on it forever.

2.) Gettysburg (1993)

The Civil War's greatest battle, and arguably America's single greatest loss of young men, was captured brilliantly in this portrayal. Martin Sheen captured Confederate General Robert E. Lee with great passion, and Tom Berenger was a great accuracy. It is acclaimed to be one of the greatest films of all time by IMOB.com, and is second on my list

1.) Full Metal Jacket (1987)

I can still hear the Mickey Mouse song. This movie follows the experience of one Marine through basic to the cities of Vietnam. Matthew Modine was the perfect dehumanized jarhead in a war-torn era. The story not only gave the perspective of being "in the shit," but from basic training, and through the eyes of the enemy. With more memorable quotes than a cliché book, and a story about the least favorite American conflict in modern time, this movie is atop my list.

On the back burner: Jarhead (2005)

Possibly a high member of my top ten, had I seen it at the time of this ranking. The movie looks really good in previews. It is based on former Marine Anthony Swofford's book about his experiences in Saudi Arabia and Kuwait. if first impressions mean anything, this movie will be a big hit, and a great war movie.

Domino falls short of the mark

Film Review

By Tiffany Dirig
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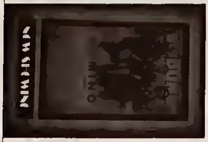

Either I am growing increasingly harder to please in my old age, or movies nowadays are absolute crap. "Domino" is, by no means, different. I'm not going to lie; when I first saw the previews for this flick, I was so excited. Being directed by the genius behind "Man on Fire" (an excellent movie, by the way), Tony Scott, and including what I thought would be a spectacular cast, I was under the impression that the movie was going to be awesome.

Apparently my judgment ain't what it used to be. I'll start with the single aspect that irritated me the most: the gross miscasting of Keira Knightley. Normally, I love this little British babe. She's brilliant when she's playing a cute soccer chick or a lovelorn damsel. But wake up and smell the napalm, sweetie...you're no bad-ass. Stick to Jane Austen...it works for you. The rest of the cast was great.

Mickey Rourke (don't laugh—he was almost acting in "9 ½ Weeks") and Mena Suvari (she actually played a different character!) were great. And although Christopher Walken played the same character he always does (a quirky weirdo), I'm willing to look past it because he does it oh-so-well. Like I said, the only thing that brought down this cast was Knightley (I can't even stand behind the "she-sucked-but-she's-hot" argument). Shoot, even Brian Austin Green and Ian Ziering (you read me correctly) were good...sort of.

After watching "Man on Fire," I knew what to expect from Scott. I knew I was going to get incredibly unsteady shots, blanched colors, and some dramatic stop-action. Too bad I was sitting way too close for all that! There were times when I had to close my eyes just to settle my stomach and ease my spinning head.

I don't know how many of you knew, but this movie was actually loosely based on the real life "British-model-turned-hard-core-bounty-hunter" named (wait for it) Domino Harvey. (Whew, I was wondering where the inventive title originated). The plot...where do I even begin? In a nutshell, someone steals a butt load of money from the owner of the Stratosphere in Vegas. He [the owner] subsequently hires Harvey and her posse to retrieve the stolen goods. After some serious backstabbing (and a lot of gunfire), she ends up being investigated by the FBI. Yawn.

No offense to the late Harvey, but it was a pretty average storyline. The only other thing that held my interest (aside from the couple good actors) was the music. It was the most eclectic collection I've ever heard in a film. I can tell you that, while I shan't be purchasing the movie, I will buy the soundtrack. In the long run, I could've lived my whole life without seeing this and been just fine. I didn't even get my usual "woo-hoo-girls-kick-butt" high. What a sad day.

RATINGS

- Cinematography
- Plot
- Acting
- Musical Score
- Casting
- Overall

Can you dig it, suckers?

State Of the Arts

By Tim Rodgers
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New York City. Home to over 7,000,000 people. They work and play by day. But when night comes, the street gangs take over the five boroughs, known simply as "The Armies of the Night"- One hundred thousand sworn rivals such as: The Baseball Furies, The Boppers, The Rogues, The High-Hats, The Lizzies, The Turnbull A.C.'s, and The Gramercy Riffs, just to name a few. But only one gang is perhaps the most toughest: The Warriors Based from the outskirts of Coney Island and led by Swan (Michael Beck), they head up towards Pelham Bay Park in the Bronx for a special meeting/truce by Cyrus, the "Lord Byron of the City". It is then that a gang member shoots and kills Cyrus and falsely accuse The Warriors for it. Now the boys from Coney are on the run. Between them and safety stands over 20,000 NYPO cops and the enemies. With only one chance at escape and only one night to do it, The Warriors will do anything possible, if necessary, to get back home. t city is out for The Warriors.

I work at Blockbuster and one night I pciked up The Warriors purely on a whim. It didn't look TOO entirely appealing, but the story seemed pretty hip. Guys travel up the city, boos gets killed now that have to get out alive. Simple, but somewhat catchy.

When I got home, I relaxed into my movie viewing posture, also known as boxer shorts and Cap'n'Crunch and began to watch. From beginning to end, I was floored by the undertones of this movie.

Many movie buffs will argue that American Pie or Last Picture Show are one of the great coming of age movies. I think The Warriors should be popped in there, figuring that it popped into my top ten with a bullett. It's angst driven plot, a group of guys with a chip on both shoulders out to survive and make a rep for themselves provided me with insight to inner city kids who might have grown up on the street. They forage, fight, steal and mug people to survive.

This movie also holds a spot in my heart for another reason, the fights. Like most guys, I love a good, violent movie at times. This one spared no expense and the best part was it was all down home, blue collar ass kicking! there was no karate or martial arts, just fists, boots, bats and chains. I loved it! It seemed so primal that there were movies actually filed like this at one time. Stories that were built on deep characters, like the solder Ajax who was ready to kick ass and take names, but ened up getting busted instead. Or Rembrandt, the newest member of their gang who followed the up and ups around like a dog. Or the silent, but nobel leader Swan who takes control after Cleon, their leader is killed.

The Warriors gave to me what I had been missing in movies, emotions. I am not going to say that I bawlled my eyes out, but it genuinly made me feel for the little guys. The Warriors weren't the biggest gang, nor the toughest but they still maintained to make it from one end of New York to the other usng their fists and their heads. I like movies that I can relate to, making The Warriors, one of the most underated movies of all time, in my opinion.

Res Ipsa Loquitor

Guest solos with Philharmonic

By Louisa Danielson
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The Fort Wayne Philharmonic performed with Brazilian pianist Jean Louis Steuerman at the Embassy Theatre on Oct. 29 at 8:00 p.m. Music Oirector Edvard Tchivzhel conducted the orchestra.

Steuerman, originally born in Rio de Janeiro, started playing piano at the age of four. He performed with the Brazilian Symphony Orchestra at 14 and has since soloed with numerous orchestras, including the Indianapolis Symphony Orchestra, the Baltimore Symphony and the Berlin Symphony. He has also made recordings of the complete works of Mendelssohn for piano and orchestra and Bach's piano concertos. Now, in addition to touring through North America, Europe and Japan, Steuerman does chamber music with other world-class musicians. He takes a particular interest in works from the twentieth century.

Tonight, Steuerman displayed that attention to modern composers in his performance of the Rachmaninoff Piano Concerto No. 1 in F-sharp minor. Steuerman performed solely by memory, punctuating his musical sentences with jabs at the piano pedals. Throughout the performance the orchestra set the tone of phrases to come.

▸ **SOLOIST:** *Page A11*

Locals rock for Katrina

By Mary Allegre
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Alternative rock band Lest You Jest's founding members (Oave Grant and Steven Henry) knew they were meant to make music together from the first day they met. Though the two musicians came from differing musical backgrounds, the chemistry and passion they shared made them a natural pairing. The duo formed Lest You Jest a couple of years ago. The rest of the band's lineup changed several times before Grant and Henry found theright compliments to their sound. Tom Wagoner and Dave McCall (also from very diverse musical backgrounds), initially intending to "check out" Grant and Henry's band, soon realized they too belonged in Lest You Jest. Lest You Jest (with members all hailing from Warsaw, Indiana) joined local acts Rudisill and Greater Midwest Identity Theft to perform at the "All Hallow's Eve Katrina Relief Show," held at Avalon Missionary Church last Saturday evening. Lest You Jest's set was comprised of original material. Most songs had a searching, dreamy presence (a la' Sleeping at Last) tothem, yet the song structures were ever-changing in dynamic. All the songs seemed personal and effectual but not explicitly heart-wrenching, with straight-up rock songs channeling the likes of Smashing Pumpkins and Silverchair, and softer material evocative of Taking Back Sunday and Oashboard Confessional. The emotional capacity in each song came across more than the actual lyrics, which worked well in a concert setting. The band's lyrical message is positive yet refreshingly real, which becomes increasingly clearer as one gets to know the band members. All the Lest You Jest band members share a belief in the Christian faith, yet are open to all musical experiences and opportunities outside of the Christian music scene.

As the band members have attested on their website (www.lestyoujest.com), "You don't...have to be a Christian to like or understand our music. We write music that is meant for everyone. While our music is your key into the locked doors of our lives, we want that door to be open when we unplug and walk off stage." Grant made it known that what he loves most is for people to connect with the band's music by rocking out in the crowd or singing along. Knowing about the band's rock ethics and personal convictions makes any Lest You Jest concert experience more relatable and personable. The fact that the band members have such diverse influences also makes for a more varied and unexpected contribution to the local rock scene.

While the future plans of this band are uncertain, Lest You Jest members collectively expressed that they are excited to play shows in the Midwest and to support the local scene. The band's impressive evolving sound, solid stage presence, vitality and emotional yet accessible vibe make them worth a listen. More information about Lest You Jest, as well as two newly recorded songs, can be found at the band's official website (www.lestyoujest.com).

Notice from the Board of Directors:

Under its new bylaws, Indiana-Purdue Student Newspapers, Inc. is accepting applicants to join the board of directors under the following categories:

- **Three members from the IPFW faculty/staff**
- **Two members who are professional print journalists**
- **Two members from the IPFW student body**

Interested individuals should contact Ann Colbert by November 15 at the following address:

Ann Colbert
President, Board of Directors
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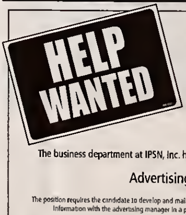

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Brothels shines

Film Review

By Tiffany Dirig
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2005 Oscar for Best Oocumentary at the 77th Annual Academy Awards. 2005 Golden Kinnaree Award for Best Documentary at the Bangkok International Film Festival. 2004 Best Film at the Cleveland International Film Festival.

All these, plus over 12 other nominations and wins for the inspirational 2004 documentary by Zana Briski and Ross Kauffman, rocketed "Born Into Brothels" into stardom--landing the children in the film, and their incredible photography, in the spotlight.

Zana Briski, a photographer from London, had, over the course of several years, assimilated herself with the families living in the Red Light Oistrict of Calcutta when she got the idea to film a documentary about the children of the prostitutes existing in these dire conditions.

As the children were particularly interested in her cameras, Briski decided to give each of the eight their own camera and instruct them in the ways of photography; thus becoming the basis for her documentary. The audience meets the eight featured children and learns what life is like for them. They vary in age from 10 to 14. Some of them are allowed to go to school; others are forced to stay home, caring for their younger siblings while their mothers sell themselves and their fathers get high. We also get to see their art progress.

Some of their photos are better than those of professionals; they have more depth and emotion, more vulnerability and purity, more knowledge and wisdom. Each child has a distinct personality and astonishing intelligence that shines through their work.

Avijit, who was but 11 at the time of filming, is among one of the most talented. He was invited by the World Press Photo Foundation in Amsterdam to be a part of the Children's Jury in 2002. One of the youngest, the then shy 10-year-old, Kochi, dreamt of going to a boarding school so as to receive a decent education; something Briski tries to accomplish--which is no easy feat in that very few schools in Calcutta will accept the child of a prostitute. Each of these children tugs at the heart strings. Briski expertly brings to light their everyday struggles while exquisitely depicting their hopes and dreams. It also portrays their clear-cut view of the world. Several times, each of them mentions their inability to escape from that which surrounds them.

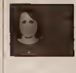
Every one of the girls speak of, one day, being included in "the line" (the prostitutes that line the streets outside their residence), or of being sold to help make money for their families. At the time, 11-year-old Shanti talked about it with little emotion.

She knew she needed to help support her younger brother and sister. Her nonchalance breaks the heart. After watching this movie it is impossible to feel nothing. These children, and their shattered innocence, are immortalized in Briski's extraordinary film.

With the gritty cinematography, the flawless decision to use these eight children, and the candidness of their interviews, we (the audience) are shown that their young eyes see much more of an angry world than should be allowed.

While some children are receiving the best education, eating full meals, and living the life a child should, this film is a harsh reminder that not all children are so lucky--not just in India and elsewhere, but here as well.

Zorro slices itself



Film Review

By Tiffany Dirig
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It's time for a Spanish lesson. How do you say: "This film was stupid"? Gimme a minute...ah, yes: "The Legend of Zorro." (Ok, you really say it like this: Esta película era estúpida). Either way you put it, it means the same thing. Seven years ago, when "The Mask of Zorro" came out, it was a rip-roarin' good time. Oh, how the mighty have fallen.

This time around, even though Antonio Banderas and Catherine Zeta-Jones reprise their roles, it was a horrible waste of nearly two hours. Shall we start at the beginning? We shall. First of all, let me tell you never to go to the Cinema Grill. The food is nasty and it's expensive...but, it is roomy. I guess you have to give some to get some.

Anyway, the movie started and, right from the opening, I knew I had made a grave mistake in buying a ticket. It was like Banderas was making another stupid "Spy Kids" movie, only this time he was swathed in black (oh wait, he wears black in those too), gets to carry a wicked-awesome whip, and make googly-eyes at Zeta-Jones. (Yeah, I about puked, too).

There were only three good actors in the whole movie: Adrian Alonso, who played Joaquin (Zorro's son), Giovanna Zacarias, who was sadly only in four or five scenes, and Zorro's unnamed horse! It's not a good sign when a kid, an unknown actress (in America, at least), and a friggin' animal can out-act an Oscar winner (Zeta-Jones) and a hottie (Banderas).

That being said, I would like to personally thank whoever decided to hire 11-year-old Alonso, because, and I'm being brutally honest here, he was better than Banderas and Zeta-Jones put together. He managed to bring intelligence to an otherwise asinine movie. Zacarias, who apparently remains quite busy in her native Mexico, brought humanity. And the horse? Well, s/he brought humor. That's an awful lot to expect from three semi-pivotal characters. I don't know how many of you remember a comment I made in one of my previous articles (the one about "In Her Shoes"), but it is a commonly-known fact that one of my biggest pet-peeves is when an actor can't commit and butchers an accent. Sadly, the only people in this crapper that got their accents right were Banderas, Alonso, and Zacarias. TOO BAD IT OOESN'T COUNT WHEN YOU'VE ALREAOY GOT ONE! (No offense Alonso and Zacarias). Zeta-Jones' Welsh accent kept sneaking through her horrifying Spanish. And Rufus Sewell (the "bad guy"—and I use the term loosely) was supposed to be French...I think.

He sounded like a moron every time he opened his mouth; he couldn't decide what accent he wanted to use. The storyline was as flimsy as wet toilet paper. It was something to the effect of Sewell wanting to blow up America using a new-fangled invention called nitroglycerin. Ooo, I'm on the edge of my seat. Now, I don't claim to know much about science—actually, I'm an idiot in that arena—but last time I checked, nitro was highly explosive.

Correct me if I'm wrong, but is it really a substance that one can transport in wine bottles suspended by springs...in a moving train!? I'm going to go with a big, fat "no" on that one. But what do I know? I'm just a stupid consumer. If things explode and there's enough sex (an element lacking as it was only PG), than there doesn't need to be a plot, right? WRONG! When a movie's as bad as "The Legend of Zorro," there has to be some saving grace—and no, the "I'm-going-to-eat-your-face-off" kissing doesn't count. It sucks to be the aforementioned good actors; this rubbish will be forever branded into their repertoire. You have my sympathies.

SOLOIST
From Page A10

The pianist would whirl through stunning arpeggios only to have the orchestra create a completely different mood by the next section. His performance was greeted with immediate applause. As an encore, Steuerman simply introduced the piece as "Bach." This piece was delicately done a capella as the orchestra watched.

The concert also included Gazebo Dances by Corigliano and Symphony No. 1 in F minor by Shostakovich. The Gazebo Dances were lively, full of dissonances that melted into harmony and kept the percussion section jumping through the mood swings.

The symphony was full of principle section solos. Violinist Hiromi Ito, trumpeter Alan Severs, and Philharmonic pianist Alexander Klepach spun melodies that whirled ahead of the orchestra. Ouring one part, the bass section thundered through a tune that was reminiscent of a syncopated Jaws theme.

Overall, the concert was appreciated with mixed reviews. Some people found the Corigliano and Shostakovich difficult to listen to: the melody was difficult to follow. But others enjoyed it. "I liked it," said Iola Singer. Her husband, Mike, agreed. "(It was) good."

Etter's project coming

By Lana Mabbit
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Allen Etter is a drawing and design instructor here at IPFW and has started a science fiction/fantasy film project called "Oarkness Aftermath."

Etter received his undergraduate degree at the University of St. Frances, with a major in drawing and a minor in painting. He continued his education attending Bowling Green State University with a major in painting and a minor in drawing. Etter has taught kindergarten through graduate classes from drawing to art history. He also teaches part time at ITT and is directing the Jesters, a theatre group for special needs youth at the University of St. Frances. He also has experience in working with film and video and this will add to the success of his project

He plans to work with IPFW students as well as some ITT students and start shooting some time in March 2006. Etter said, "I thought it would be a perfect opportunity for students to be able to work on something that would be fun, but at the same time would be something they could add to their portfolio..." Along with students working on the five CG characters, they will also be involved with acting, set design and other production aspects. Etter is also creating and building unique instruments to be played on the soundtrack for "Oarkness Aftermath." Etter has been inspired by Blue Man Group and Stomp to create different sounds, some of which my not be so recognizable.

Etter started designing the characters about a year ago, originally for a graphic novel, and after developing characters for a couple of months he decided to put everything into over four hundred and twenty-five storyboards and turned it into a film project. "Oarkness Aftermath" is a spin-off of a four book series called "Entropy Gate" that Etter also wrote. The connection between these two sagas is the character called Lilly.

"Darkness Aftermath" is basicly about a society that is completely blind and became that way due to the constant toxic rain. Good is pitted against evil in a world divided into three classes: villagers, forest dwellers and beggars. Etter takes a natural approach with the backdrop of the film as apposed to an industrial look.

Lilly battles the demonic creatures called drifters. She is the ultimate voice of good and also helps the people of the village on a spiritual level. Lilly adds humor to the plot; she is cute and full of life living in a world of tragedy and physical darkness.

The villagers have a caretaker named Gwenn and she has been given the responsibility of finding a way to destroy the Garum, a creature that has been driven mad by his own blindness. The Garum has started to wipe out the forest dwellers and needs to be dealt with. Gwenn has a plan to get rid of the Garum but she will need help.

Etter has plans to release "Oarkness Aftermath" on OVD and hopefully enter it in film festivals. He also has hopes of renting someplace like The Rave or Regal Cinemas at Coldwater to have a premier show.

Photo by Lana Mabbitt / lmabbitt@ipfwcommunicator.org

AUTHOR: Etter and his character "Lilly" from his Graphic novel, "Darkness Aftermath"

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Meiers withdrawal favors GOP

By Joshua Huck
Daily Texan
University of Texas

After witnessing the ignominious end of President Bush's nomination of Harriet Meiers to the Supreme Court, everyone is wondering, "Who will he pick next?"

With new information surfacing about Harriet Meiers almost every day since Bush announced her nomination on Oct. 3, I withhold judgment. For all the Democrats who'd had their fingers crossed, she didn't seem like the worst-case scenario many of them were expecting for Bush's nominative encore. The combination of her lack of a "paper trail" and a steady stream of reports of contradicting ideological events in her personal history only served to reinforce her inscrutability.

Sadly, cries of cronyism rang hollow, considering that with this administration it's basically a foregone conclusion.

All things said, she was relatively underqualified, inconsistent and maddeningly mediocre. To put it another way, Bush chose plain ol' vanilla, instead of Constructionist Christian Crunch or Straussian Sorbet.

Yet we on the left were forced to concede that Bush could have chosen someone a lot more harmful for the position. He could have picked an ideological lightning rod more in the vein of former Supreme Court hopeful Robert Bork.

Well, now he has a chance to.

In James Madison's influential Federalist Paper 10, he warned of the influence of radical factions:

"A zeal for different opinions concerning religion, concerning government, and many other points ... have, in turn, divided mankind into parties, inflamed them with mutual animosity, and rendered them much more disposed to vex and oppress each other, than to co-operate for their common good."

These days, zealots from both sides of the aisle clip on lapel microphones for cable news shows or type furiously for op-ed sections and weblogs, cranking out partisan invective 24 hours a day. Modern-day radical factions have more opportunities than ever to present themselves to an audience of millions, influencing policymakers by proxy and warping our leaders' perceptions of the country.

In this particular case, Harriet Meiers got the boot because she didn't conform to the standards of the right's own vocal minorities, whether or not their agendas mirrored the country's as a whole.

In the most recent CNN/USA Today/Gallup poll only 38 percent of Americans considered themselves "pro-life." Hard right congressmen such as Sam Brownback, R-Kansas, and many from the Christian right, however, seemed to be asking for nothing short of a promise direct from Meiers' lips that she would stop at nothing to overturn Roe v. Wade.

Hard-line conservatives such as Charles Krauthammer and William Kristol dragged Miers over the coals for not being a "movement conservative." The fact that – by raising enough hell in the media – these people achieved their first goal, Meiers' withdrawal, is disturbing.

The possibility that these unrepresentative minorities could succeed in influencing Bush to choose a justice that fits their specific criteria is downright un-American.

In a semi-perfect world, Bush would choose a candidate who had demonstrated true equanimity, righteous opacity, and preferably, had sterling credentials to brace themselves with. For a parched country denied but a few drops of precious moderation every so often, a middle-of-the-road pick would prevent more partisan wound-opening.

More realistically, Bush has already exposed himself as caving into the will of the party. After the last few harrowing months of sagging poll numbers and mounting scandals, Bush needs the support of his base in order to salvage his legacy. I doubt there will be any public relations stunts or knowing winks necessary next time around.

Nothing says "I'm sorry" like an agreeable Supreme Court pick.